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MINISTERS ON RESULTS OF PANAMA CITY MEETINGS

Nicaragua's D'Escoto

PA221445 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto has described his meeting with the Contadora Group foreign ministers as very productive and positive. D'Escoto was interviewed over the telphone by newsman (Abraham Quijana Maganche) from the news team of Radio Sandino's "Extra" newscast. Foreign Minister D'Escoto said that at the 2-day meeting in Panama City, Nicaragua maintained that the most urgent necessity is to establish bilateral contacts with Honduras, in the presence of the foreign ministers of Venezuela, Colombia, Mexico and Panama. He indicated that the final communique of the Contadora ministers meeting reflects the relative success of the talks, because for the first time they state that the foreign ministers of Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala have accepted the possibility of bilateral discussions on some topics of great interest to the region. D'Escoto said that the Contadora foreign ministers support a bilateral dialogue to analyze the deterioration in Honduran-Nicaraguan relations and to assess Honduras' participation in and complicity with the U.S. aggressive policy against Nicaragua and the gradual invasion of Nicaragua. Here are Foreign Minister D'Escoto's remarks in Panama City, in a last minute telephone interview by the "Extra" newscast:

[Begin recording] [D'Escoto] We have entered a second phase of consultations between the Contadora foreign ministers and each of the Central American foreign ministers. Instead of having the Contadora ministers visit the Central American countries, all of the ministers have come to Panama. They have not come to have a meeting of Central American foreign ministers but so that each Central American minister could meet separately with the Contadora Group foreign ministers.

I can talk about Nicaragua's participation in this -- that is, about my meeting with the four Contadora ministers. It can only be characterized as productive and very good. We specifically tried to define those topics and those countries with which Nicaragua has particular interest in meeting bilaterally, so that the chances of attaining stable and lasting peace in the region can be strengthened. We also tried to establish the points that Nicaragua believes should be discussed regionally. It was clearly established that Nicaragua believes that the most urgent thing is to establish direct bilateral contacts between Nicaragua and Honduras. As we have already said, we hope that this can be done in the presence of the Contadora foreign ministers. Although this is Nicaragua's desire, it is obvious that this must also be of great interest to Honduras and the rest of the Central American countries, because it would be an attempt to hold a frank and productive dialogue between Nicaragua and Honduras in order to prevent a war that is becoming increasingly possible as a result of Honduras' willingness to let itself be used as an instrument of the U.S. aggressive and invasive policy against Nicaragua. This situation makes that war, which Nicaragua has always sought to prevent, increasingly possible, because Honduras wants neither to participate in the dialogue that is essential to prevent such a war, nor to stop its policy of complicity with the United States. It was made clear that this was Nicaragua's primary interest.

The Contadora Group foreign ministers have issued a communique indicating that they believe that these separate consultations with each of the Central American foreign ministers were very productive.

The Contadora initiative continues in force. A third meeting has been scheduled. It might be held here in Panama in May. The Contadora foreign ministers have said that they have confirmed that there is a political desire among all of the countries to do something for peace. This is exactly Nicaragua's attitude. As was stated in the Contadora foreign ministers' communique, the important thing is that for the first time, the Central American foreign ministers have accepted the possibility of bilaterally discussing some of the subjects that are of great interest for the region. Those subjects should be discussed bilaterally rather than in a joint manner. Examples of such subjects are the deterioration of Honduran-Nicaraguan relations, Honduras' participation and complicity with all of this aggressive U.S. policy against Nicaragua, the invasion, etc. In short, we think that it has been a successful meeting. The second round of consultations by the Contadora Group foreign ministers has had relative success. At least, the process and search continues and there is a desire for further progress.

[Question] It seems that there is a chance that countries like France and Spain will join this goodwill Contadora group to help solve the conflict in Central America, especially that between Nicaragua and Honduras.

[Answer] I really can't say anything about that at this time. I can tell you that other Latin American countries, at least three that I know of, have expressed their willingness to participate and to cooperate in this effort by the Contadora countries. I think it is very good that there is such interest and willingness. [end recording]

Colombia's Lloreda

PA221548 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Bogota -- The Contadora Group foreign ministers and their Central American counterparts agreed to meet in May to continue their peace dialogue for this convulsed region, in order to reach a significant first agreement on alleviating bilateral and multilateral tension.

Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo, who arrived from Panama a few hours ago, said that the joint conference of his Central American counterparts had been historic: For the first time in 2 years, the foreign ministers of Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua sat down for a dialogue.

The Colombian minister said that in the course of the long process in search of peace for Central America, his counterparts in the affected area reached the initial understanding that problems do exist and that bilateral meetings do not exclude multilateral ones and vice versa. During those tight 48 hours of work, the Contadora foreign ministers reviewed topics with their Central American counterparts ranging from arms control and reduction to the presence of military advisers and other forms of military foreign aid; from actions that are designed sometimes to destabilize the domestic order of other states, to threats and verbal attacks, clashes and border tension.

For the time being, the minister dismissed the possibility that his Contadora counterparts might travel to Moscow. He described this idea as a story concocted by some uninformed person in Panama. He also denied that either the opponents of the Nicaraguan regime or the Salvadoran guerrillas will sit at the talks, since the consultations are being conducted at the state level. Otherwise, he explained, it would be undue interference in these nations' domestic affairs.

The minister admitted that a stormy path must still be walked in search of peace for Central America. He said, however, that the groundwork has been laid for renewing efforts, for insisting on differences and for strengthening points of agreement.

Venezuela's Zambrano

PA230017 Paris AFP in Spanish 2313 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Caracas, 22 Apr (AFP) -- Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco stated in Caracas today that the foreign ministers of the Contadora Group, made up of Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela, have rejected the possibility of a meeting between their chiefs of state and those of Central America in the search for peace in the subregion.

Today Zambrano Velasco informed Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins about the results of the meeting between the five Central American foreign ministers and the four Contadora Group ministers held in Panama on Wednesday and Thursday. Zambrano Velasco, who will leave for an official visit of the Soviet Union in the next few hours, categorically denied today that he was the bearer of a message to the Kremlin from the Contadora Group.

"No message of this kind is being sent to the Soviet Union. My visit to the USSR is completely bilateral, within the framework of our friendly political relations," he noted.

The Venezuelan press had reported that Zambrano Velasco was supposed to ask on behalf of his colleagues for Soviet support in the peace efforts promoted by the Contadora Group.

Regarding the final bulletin issued by the recent Panama City meeting, he praised the fact that all Central American foreign ministers were gathered around a single table. According to the Venezuelan foreign minister, an order has been established for the topics, procedures and actions that will be used, at the foreign ministry level, in a new meeting to be held in May.

He stressed that the efforts of the Contadora Group, and particularly those of Venezuela, are of an external nature. "We would never attempt to run the political lives of the Central American countries, and they would not allow it," he said.

In conclusion, he declared that recent incidents such as the Libyan weapons sent to Nicaragua and detained by Brazil, the change in the Salvadoran defense minister, the suicide of rebel chieftain Cayetano Carpio and the report on a plot to kill Guatemalan President Efrain Rios Montt are disturbing elements for the climate of peace desired for Central America.

Honduras' Paz Barnica

PA240001 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Edgardo Paz Barnica has described as positive the meeting of Central American foreign ministers with members of the Contadora Group in Panama. The foreign minister said that the meeting completed the process of consultation desired by the members of the group. Here is his statement:

[Begin recording] [Paz Barnica] In the first place, I wish to tell you that on the trip I was accompanied by three Foreign Ministry advisers, since we were working on site.

I went to the Panama meeting that was convoked by the ministers, of the so-called Contadora Group, that is, the foreign ministers of Venezuela, Colombia, Panama and Mexico, for a series of consultations, with the understanding that it was a regional meeting, meaning that it involved the foreign ministers of the five Central American countries, plus the four of the Contadora group. The purpose of the meeting was to take actions and pursue initiatives that would reinforce the desire to establish a climate of peace in Central America.

We went to Contadora with that spirit. A declaration was approved there by the four Contadora ministers. It will be published here. The document contains, in general terms, the ideas that prevailed in the consultations.

The Contadora ministers told us they wanted to complete the information and the terms of reference they had gathered in their tour of the Central American countries. Despite this, we felt that there could be a regional meeting, that is, the five Central American and the four Contadora foreign ministers. The foreign ministers of Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica, and Honduras adopted a common position that is firmly rooted in the foreign policy of each of those nations; that there should be a general, regional solution to the Central American problems, without ruling out bilateral meetings and the discussing of topics related to problems existing between states.

In this spirit, each of Central American foreign ministers met with the four Contadora ministers with the intention of completing the consultation process. We felt that later there should be a meeting of all five Central American ministers with the four Contadora ministers. The four countries that I mentioned, that is, the Central American countries excluding Nicaragua, expressed this view. However, regrettably, Nicaragua emphatically and intransigently refused even to sit at the same table with us for an exchange of views with the other Central American countries and the Contadora countries. We are quite ready to participate in multilateral and bilateral dialogue.

Despite this, we feel that the meeting in Panama was positive, because it completed the process of consultations with the four Contadora Group foreign ministers and because it was decided that in late May there will be another meeting at which discussions will be held in greater depth in an attempt to bring the positions closer together. It was also positive because it revealed Nicaragua's intransigence as regards discussing these matters in a general and regional framework or, even more important, with the four Central American countries, because it is up to the Central American countries to take the initiative in these matters, not the countries from outside the area; even though we appreciate and value those initiatives and believe they are highly positive.

It was made evident that the Central American countries -- Costa Rica, Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala -- adopted a joint and united position that led to a press communique that was signed by their four foreign ministers. In the press communique, they expressed support for the overall regional solution without bias against dealing with bilateral issues. In this sense, I think the Panama meeting constitutes one more step in the search for peace, which is one of the essential objectives of the foreign policy of the constitutional and democratic government of President Suazo Cordova.

[Question] Dr Paz Barnica, this meeting in Panama was held in a good atmosphere, but don't you think that in reality it was a failure?

[Answer] It was not a failure because we agreed on holding a new meeting at the end of May. It was not a failure because each of the Central American foreign ministers, including the Nicaraguan minister, individually exchanged views with the four foreign ministers of the Contadora Group, that is, those of Colombia, Mexico, Venezuela and Panama. It was not a failure because four Central American countries strengthened their joint position in support of a meeting that will discuss the issues in an overall and regional context. It was a cordial meeting, but of course it had its moments of tension. However, I think this has contributed to better understanding of the Central American reality by the Contadora countries. They have been able to understand better the Central American peoples' and governments' feelings on the region's complex problems.

[Question] What has been Honduras' reaction to Nicaragua's charges? The Nicaraguans say they feel they are attacked.

[Answer] They always say that, but we are always protesting the series of provocations and the acts of hostility against Honduras by the Nicaraguan Government. After the statements aimed at destabilizing the democratic Honduran Government -- about which there is irrefutable proof -- we have the recent remarks by Nicaraguan Defense Minister Humberto Ortega Saavedra, who urges violence to confront the democratic institutions in our country. We do not attack anyone. We have said that while Nicaragua wants war, Honduras wants peace. We are dutybound to struggle for peace.

[Question] If Nicaragua refuses to be part of this group, what procedures can be carried out to solve the problems?

[Answer] There will be a new meeting at the end of May. It will be sponsored by the Contadora Group countries for the purpose of going deeper into regional topics, which are the essential ones. There are also bilateral topics that can be discussed between the countries. Regarding this, the Nicaraguan Government has yet to tell us whether it will attend a meeting of naval chiefs to establish mechanisms to prevent naval incidents. In 1 week, there have been three or four naval incidents in Honduran territorial waters. They have been provoked by the Nicaraguan Army. These could have been prevented if the Nicaraguan Government had attended a meeting that was planned last year, but which they have not wanted to attend. The meeting would establish temporary delimited zones marked off by buoys in the Atlantic and the Pacific.

There are other issues that can be dealt with bilaterally. However, the essential issues, the political issues, those that deal with regional peace and security, have a regional character and should be discussed in an overall manner. These include the arms buildup; the arms traffic; foreign military and other kinds of advisers; international supervision and vigilance at borders, airports, ports and strategic zones; a permanent multilateral dialogue that involves domestic agreements in each state for the establishment of democratic systems based on the expression of the people's sovereignty through the exercise of suffrage; and respect for the delimited and marked borders in order to prevent territorial or naval incidents.

[Question] What is your opinion of the Brazilian confiscation of weapons that were destined for Nicaragua?

[Answer] That is a scandalous incident. It is one more proof of several things. On the one hand it confirms the arms buildup of the Nicaraguan Government, which constitutes a threat to the equilibrium of the Central American region.

It also confirms the purchase of weapons to try and destabilize the established governments in other countries of the region. They have given one more proof of their warmongering intentions.

[Question] Could Nicaragua's attitude make the Contadora Group realize that Nicaragua is the obstacle to peace in the Central American region?

[Answer] We hope and have confidence that such capable and outstanding foreign ministers as Zambrano Velasco of Venezuela, Lloreda Caicedo of Colombia, Bernardo Sepulveda of Mexico and Juan Jose Amado of Panama, who are very experienced in the diplomatic field and who want peace in Central America, have clearly perceived who are the ones who want a lasting and solid peace in Central America and who are the ones who isolate themselves and who on the basis of intransigence are trying to impose their viewpoints, which only lead to confrontations. That is why Honduras reiterated its desire for peace, and we will continue to struggle against all odds for that peace.

[Question] Do you think the members of the Contadora Group are acting impartially to solve the situation in Central America?

[Answer] Well, we hope that they are. [end recording]

Guatemala's Castillo

PA232147 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 1230 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Castillo Arriola said last night at a press conference that Guatemala's participation in the Panama meeting was positive. He said that it was agreed that the solution of the Honduran-Nicaraguan conflict or any other conflict that might arise should be accomplished without the intervention of continental or extracontinental powers. Above all, he added, they should be resolved through friendly and cordial efforts.

The next meeting will be held at the end of this month here in Guatemala. The foreign minister said last night that Guatemala proposed in Panama that the next meeting be held in our country at the end of April. This was accepted in principle by Costa Rica, Honduras and El Salvador. The foreign minister added that four issues, which he itemized, were discussed in Panama. They are as follows:

1. That it is necessary for areas of common discussion to be defined;
2. That control of the arms race must be discussed;
3. That the presence of foreign advisers and the arms traffic in the area hinder the improvement of relations; and,
4. That Central America could become destabilized as a result of military and political campaigns.

Finally, as a corollary of the first four topics, they discussed the region's economic development.

Costa Rica's Peters

PA231738 Paris AFP in Spanish 0358 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] San Jose, 22 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Ekhart Peters, Costa Rican acting foreign minister, has described as "positive" the meeting between the five Central American foreign ministers and the four foreign ministers of the Contadora Group held in Panama 20-21 April, "because it permitted us to learn about each country's viewpoint in the search for a stable and lasting peace in the region."

Upon his arrival in San Jose, the foreign minister said that Costa Rica backed the proposal by Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador, to the effect that matters connected with peace in the region, such as arms buildup and destabilization of the area governments should be discussed in multilateral, general or regional meetings with the Contadora Group as mediator. He added that he advocated the holding of bilateral meetings to discuss only matters such as the balance of payments, incursions and border demarcation.

Peters added that the next meeting will be held in Panama City on 27 May with the participation of the Central American and Contadora Group foreign ministers; that is, Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and Panama. He said that meeting "will be held according to preestablished procedures proposed by Costa Rica, Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala." He said that on the occasion of the 27 May meeting there will be an opening session. Two groups will work on the agenda and the procedures, followed by a plenary session with which all participants to wind up the meeting.

El Salvador's Foreign Ministry

PA230101 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1952 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 22 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- The Salvadoran Foreign Ministry announced today in an official communique that the firm position of El Salvador, Costa Rica and Honduras prevented the "Contadora Group" from meeting separately with each one of the foreign ministers of the area with Nicaragua present at each meeting. The document added that last Wednesday, when the meeting of the "Contadora Group" foreign ministers (Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and Panama) began in Panama, there were "tenacious" negotiations to decide whether the talks would be bilateral or multilateral.

Salvadoran Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena was proposed as mediator in view of the existing "impasse," because the "Contadora Group" wanted to meet separately with the foreign ministers of the region, but with Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto present at every meeting.

According to Salvadoran official sources, Chavez Mena rejected being a mediator and agreed with his counterparts of Costa Rica and Honduras, leading to the support of Guatemala and Nicaragua "for the position of the remaining countries of the region."

The communique noted that Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica, Guatemalan Foreign Minister Eduardo Castillo Arriola and acting Costa Rican Foreign Minister Ekhard Peter were the first to meet separately with the foreign ministers of Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and Panama, that same night, Wednesday.

The following day in separate meetings they met with the representatives of El Salvador, Fidel Chavez Mena, and of Nicaragua, Miguel D'Escoto.

HAVANA REPORTS ON 'CONTADORA GROUP' COMMUNIQUE

PA222043 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] After 2 days of discussions, the Contadora Group's meeting with the Central American foreign ministers ended in Panama City. The meeting was an effort to find peaceful solutions to the area crisis.

In a communique issued on the subject, the group stated that the primary responsibility for achieving agreements that can guarantee peaceful stability in Central America is that of the region's countries. The document declared that the Contadora Group -- Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and Panama -- is convinced that it is possible to deal with Central American conflicts through formulas for negotiations and with a genuine spirit of negotiation. The foreign ministers agreed to meet again in May in the isthmian capital.

They stated that in this second phase of consultation, they had the opportunity to gain better knowledge of the points of view of each of the Central American states and noted that, in their opinion, the most important subjects for debate are the arms race, arms control and reduction, the presence of military advisers and other means of foreign military assistance. They also mentioned actions intended to destabilize the internal order of other states, threats and verbal attacks, armed incidents and border tension.

Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto stated that his country maintains an attitude of cooperation with the Contadora Group's efforts to achieve peace. He said that the fact that there was no dialogue between Nicaragua and Honduras during the recently concluded meeting reflects the purpose of the meeting, which was simply to hold talks with the members of the group.

MEXICO, VENEZUELA TO MODIFY SAN JOSE ACCORD

FL231209 Bridgetown CANA in English 0954 GMT 23 Apr 83

[By Keith Grant]

[Text] Caracas, April 23, CANA-REUTER -- Venezuela and Mexico plan to provide less generous financial terms in their joint oil aid programme for Central America and the Caribbean when the scheme comes up for renewal in August, because of the slump in oil prices, government sources said yesterday.

When Venezuela and Mexico signed the San Jose Accord in August 1980, benefitting nine poor countries in the region, the programme was hailed as a unique example of aid by oil exporting nations to the Third World.

Under the scheme, the two countries jointly supply up to 160,000 barrels per day of crude oil at 70 percent of the market price, with the remaining 30 per cent treated as a five-year loan at four per cent interest.

Up to now the two countries have supplied more than five billion dollars worth of oil to Barbados, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama and the Dominican Republic.

The donor countries viewed the programme as a contribution towards stabilising the Caribbean region without political strings attached, and have continued to supply Nicaragua despite ideological differences.

However, senior Venezuelan Energy and Mines Ministry officials said the scheme will be modified in August to take account of the new financial reality facing Venezuela and Mexico.

Mexican and Venezuelan technical experts are currently discussing the renewal of the scheme, and are expected to recommend reducing supplies by 25 per cent to around 120,000 barrels per day. The 70 per cent cash portion is also likely to be raised to 80 per cent so as to maintain the same level of payments as before.

Some Central American countries have already expressed concern over the effects of altering the conditions of the San Jose Accord, fearing severe pressure on their balance of payments. Venezuela has not supplied Nicaragua with its normal daily quota of 6,000 barrels since September 1982 because of delayed payments and has denied that the suspension was politically.

SELA ACTION COMMITTEE SUPPORTS NICARAGUA

PA212320 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] At the closure of the fourth ordinary meeting of the Action Committee for the Reconstruction of Nicaragua, CARN, the member countries again reiterated their Latin American solidarity with Nicaragua in the face of imperialism's escalation of aggression. In the final statement, the member countries of SELA'S CARN stated that no reconstruction can exist without peace and offered resolute support for the Nicaraguan people's peace efforts. Here are the final resolutions of the fourth ordinary meeting of CARN, issued at the closing session at the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry, attended by 17 Latin American countries:

Having heard in their fourth ordinary meeting the report presented by the Nicaraguan delegation on the dangerous situation of growing aggression that Nicaragua is experiencing and the enormous efforts for peace and dialogue that Nicaragua is carrying out; having received a Nicaraguan report that shows that despite this situation important efforts for Nicaragua's reconstruction have been made; and having carried out the activities of Latin American support through the committee in the past year, the CARN member countries:

1. Reiterate the spirit of Latin American solidarity characteristic of SELA which falls within the framework of the basic principles of absolute respect for self-determination and sovereignty and the sovereign right of all nations to take their own economic, social and political path in peace and freedom, free of pressures, aggressions and foreign threats. SELA Decision No. 112.

2. Reiterate their rejection of all kinds of foreign threats against the country which was already expressed in their declaration at the first special meeting of the SELA'S CARN in October 1982.

3. State that there can be no reconstruction without peace and that they resolutely support the efforts for peace in the region that are being carried out by the fraternal countries of the Contadora Group and they urge all countries to support those efforts, as well as other initiatives for dialogue and peace.

4. Are pleased with Bolivia and Grenada's entrance and they recognize their Latin American spirit of cooperation in the SELA.

5. Confirm their full support for and solidarity with Nicaragua's reconstruction process.

LIBYAN MISSION VISITS, VIEWS ARMS TRADE

PY221315 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2045 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 21 Apr (NA) -- An important Libyan mission is conducting confidential negotiations in Buenos Aires on the possibility of increasing bilateral relations and purchasing either arms or technology, especially in the nuclear field. Reliable sources told NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS that the Foreign Ministry practically had no participation in the visit of the Libyan mission, which was organized by and is taking place under the direct supervision of the Armed Forces.

The five-member mission is headed by a member of Libya's Revolutionary Council, who is reportedly one of the most important officials of the Libyan Government. The only civilian member is an ambassador, who is said to be "Al-Qadhdhafi's adviser for Latin America."

The visitors allegedly visited the Atucha nuclear plant on Tuesday, stating that they were impressed by the technological level involved in the operation of the plant built along the Parana River.

The sources also disclosed that during their stay in Argentina the representatives of the Libyan Government watched an exhibition using Argentine-made weapons. The visitors allegedly also visited the tank regiment stationed in Magdalena, Buenos Aires Province, and watched exercises of the Medium Argentine Tank (TAM).

An exhibition of the Pucara plane designed by the Air Force and target practice with the light-weight automatic rifle (FAL) manufactured by military industries under Belgian license were reportedly also held for the visitors.

It was learned that the visit materialized following a number of contacts. The most important of these contacts reportedly was the visit paid to Libya by three top military officers a little over a month ago. Air Force Chief of Staff Jose Maria Insua, military manufacturers Deputy Director Nelson Angel Chillo and an unidentified admiral reportedly travelled to Bangazi. It was reported that the main purpose of the trip was to reiterate to the Libyan Government Argentina's gratitude for the military aid sent during the Malvinas war.

SUPER-ETENDARD PLANES OPERATING ON CARRIER

PY222357 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1745 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Bahia Blanca, 22 Apr (NA) -- According to Navy sources, the French-made Super-Etendard planes, which played a major role in the Malvinas war, will now operate from the carrier "25 de Mayo," the Argentine Navy flagship.

The carrier, heading the sea fleet, was sailing toward Puerto Belgrano today after having participated in exercises carried out during the last few days. During the exercises, which were undertaken in an unspecified area off the Atlantic coast, the planes underwent take-off tests from the carrier's deck.

Navy sources reported that the Argentine carrier's weaponry is more powerful than that of other countries because "the planes can be used to attack targets on land and at sea and can protect the fleet from air attack."

The source pointed out that the Super-Etendard planes, which are so sophisticated that at least 1 year of specialized training is needed to fly them, can operate with all their weapons, that is, they can carry and launch the deadly Exocet missile.

CARRIER, SOME SHIPS RETURN FROM NAVAL MANEUVERS

PY230256 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0008 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Bahia Blanca, 22 Apr (DYN) -- The flagship of the fleet, the "25 de Mayo" aircraft carrier, anchored today in its Puerto Belgrano station after taking part in naval exercises in the South Atlantic.

The "25 de Mayo" carried on board for the first time the Super-Etendard airplanes commissioned by the Naval Air Force.

Part of the first class and second class destroyers as well as the missile-carrying corvette group arrived in port. However, the minesweeper group and the San Antonio transport ship carrying cadets of the naval school and marine infantry are still carrying out exercises.

DEATH THREATS MADE TO BRITISH COMMUNITY

PY222004 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 21 Apr 83 p 1

[Article by Douglas Tweedale]

[Text] An anonymous caller claiming to represent the Argentine Anti-Communist Alliance (AAA) terrorist group yesterday threatened to kill more than 100 members of the British community if the ship carrying relatives of Argentine soldiers killed in the Malvinas war to the islands is sunk by Britain.

Andrew Thompson, the LONDON TIMES correspondent here, said yesterday he received a telephoned warning that within 24 hours of a British attack on the ship the 'Triple A' group would execute the staff of the British Embassy and 100 members of the British community here. Thompson said the man added that the lists of victims "has already been drawn up and the TIMES correspondent is on it."

Thompson said he had notified the Foreign Ministry and the British interests section of the Swiss Embassy here about the call and said that he decided to make the threat public on the advice of Argentine friends.

There were indications that the call Thompson received was part of a larger campaign of telephone threats aimed at the British community. Other news media have received similar warnings over the last week, and Thompson said that the diplomatic official whom he notified about the threat "seemed already aware that this type of thing has been happening," possibly indicating other calls to British businesses or schools.

The Centre of Volunteers for the Fatherland has organized a trip by several hundred relatives of Argentines killed in the Malvinas conflict to visit their graves on the islands. Some time after Thimpson received the threat yesterday, Britain announced that it will bar the relatives visit because the trip organizers did not comply with guidelines for the trip.

Osvado Destefanis, president of the volunteers' centre and the principal organizer of the trip, yesterday condemned the threats against the British community as "thorough idiocy" and blamed the threat campaign on "persons responding directly to orders from London."

He said that "British interests" are trying to link his group with the "graves of our loved ones." Destefanis added that "this is an obvious tactic to anyone who realizes that the AAA is a completely discredited terrorist operation in Argentina."

The AAA was a right-wing terrorist group which carried out political kidnappings and murders during the worst period of extremist violence in the mid-1970's, but has been inactive in recent years and is generally believed to have been disbanded.

Journalists, Companies Threatened

PY222123 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1559 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Apr (NA) -- Two journalists reported at the Foreign Ministry today that the self-styled "2 April Commando" issued a warning against the Swiss Embassy official in charge of British interests.

A spokesman for the "commando" also announced that they will begin attacking British companies "to cause Glaxo and Shell to disappear" and that they will also attack "all schools offering training to those willing to take English examinations."

The Interior Ministry was immediately notified of the warning reported by the journalists so that "the necessary measures" may be taken, said Oscar Fernandez Zuarez, head of the Foreign Ministry Press Department.

The journalists who were threatened are Jimmy Burns of the FINANCIAL TIMES and Ted Oliver of the DAILY MAIL. The commando also issued a warning against David Joy, the Swiss Embassy official in charge of British interests. The two journalists were given 24 hours to leave the country.

The threats were made through a phone call to the Swiss Embassy in Buenos Aires last night. Therefore, it is believed that Swiss Ambassador Jean Pierre Keusch will report to the Foreign Ministry to confirm the denunciation this afternoon.

The spokesman for the "2 April Commando," who called the Swiss Embassy, said that "in view of [words indistinct] to the Malvinas with Osvaldo Destefanis (head of the Center of Volunteers for the Fatherland) "we will begin taking strong action against the British." The spokesman said "We have made a drastic decision which we will implement starting tomorrow (that is, today) and I want to warn that: 1. We will give British journalists Jimmy Burns of the FINANCIAL TIMES and Ted Oliver of the DAILY MAIL 24 hours to leave the country. Otherwise we will kill them right away. We know where they live and what their movements are. 2. We will begin attacking British companies and we will cause Glaxo and Shell to disappear. 3. We will take action against all schools offering training to those willing to take English examinations. 4. This warning is addressed to David Joy, the Swiss Embassy official in charge of British interests. We know what time he gets up and what time he goes to bed."

Talking to NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS reporters, Burns refused to reveal what he will do in the face of the threats.

HERALD Editor's Response

PY221710 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1152 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Apr (NA) -- James Neilson, editor of the BUENOS AIRES HERALD, has stated that in no way will he leave the country despite the 48-hour deadline, which expires tomorrow, that the rightwing terrorist organization Triple A gave him in a telephone threat. An anonymous member of that organization telephoned NA's offices last night and confirmed that Neilson had been threatened because "he had not complied with the commitment of publishing Communique No 1."

According to the anonymous caller, the Triple A's Communique No 1 indicates the intention of murdering 100 members of the British community if the ship "Lago Lacar," which will try and reach the Malvinas on 30 April, is attacked.

The Triple A's caller also said that many of the British subjects that have been threatened "have already left the country" and he defined the organization's action as "patriotic."

The threat against the HERALD's editor, who lodged the corresponding complaint last night, was received by Dan Newland, a member of the English speaking newspaper's staff. The anonymous threat states that if Neilson does not leave the country within the next 48 hours, he will be executed and bombs will be placed in the building housing the newspaper.

The editor of the newspaper reported that the complaint was lodged last night with the 22d Police Precinct and will be expanded tomorrow. Asked about the incident, he stated that this is the first threat that he has received "this month," but admitted that he has been the victim of "1 or 2 dozen" threats during the 3 years that he has been the newspaper's editor.

The BUENOS AIRES HERALD's former editor, Robert Cox, had to leave the country in view of the repeated threats against him and his family. Neilson said that "If those who are threatening me have anything to say, I suggest that they send a letter to the newspaper and it will be published."

RELATIVES OF DEAD TO LEAVE FOR FALKLANDS 30 APR

PY220126 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2014 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 21 Apr (DYN) -- Osvaldo Destefanis, chairman of the Center of Volunteers for the Fatherland, officially announced today that the Argentine state-owned ship "Lago Lacar" will leave from the northern wharf of the port of Buenos Aires on Saturday, 30 April, at 1500. The ship will carry a group of relatives of dead Argentine soldiers to the Malvinas. The trip is being organized by Osvaldo Destefanis himself.

Destefanis stated that he has received a note from London from the secretary of Labor Deputy Tom Gallier telling him that the decision adopted by Mrs Margaret Thatcher's government "is not shared by the majority of the British people," and that "we will not fire at the ship."

Appeal to Queen

PY240301 Buenos Aires D_N in Spanish 1714 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 23 Apr (DYN) -- Osvaldo Destefanis, head of the Center of Volunteers for the Fatherland, reported today that his organization has asked Queen Elizabeth II, "a mother of a soldier who fought in this war," to allow the group of relatives of Argentine soldiers who died during the South Atlantic conflict and were buried at the Darwin Cemetery, to visit the Malvinas. Destefanis reiterated that the trip "has no political connotations."

Destefanis made this announcement upon being asked by telephone about UK Foreign Under Secretary Cranley Onslow's claim that he was an "opportunist working for his own benefit." Destefanis also angrily rejected Onslow's remark that the trip of the Argentine relatives seems to be "a propaganda issue."

The telex sent to Queen Elizabeth states:

Mothers and relatives of Argentine soldiers who died during the war for the Malvinas wish to appeal to the humanitarian feelings of the British people and to your own as those of a mother of a soldier who fought in this war and ask that we be allowed to kneel and pray at the graves of our children.

This request has no political connotations and we promise not to interfere with diplomatic negotiations.

In view of the impossibility of using a third nation ship because of the high cost of such a ship, we ask that the prohibition to use an Argentine ship (the "Lago Lacar") flying the Red Cross flag be reconsidered.

We also ask that British and third nation journalists be allowed to be present to guarantee the security of the Argentine relatives.

We hope that a favorable decision can be reached that would be in keeping with the humanitarian feelings of the British people and the majority of the British Government; feelings which were demonstrated by the mothers and relatives who visited the graves of the British soldiers.

The British Government's insistence that the trip be made in a ship flying the flag of a third country means that the trip is out of the question for financial reasons. Mrs Thatcher's administration has been made fully aware of this fact by the Red Cross.

Destefanis also revealed that the Center of Volunteers for the Fatherland sent telex messages almost simultaneously to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar asking that international organization to help obtain permission for the "Lago Lacar" to visit the Malvinas; to the International Red Cross committee reiterating the desire that the ship be allowed to fly the Red Cross flag; and to Uruguayan President Gen Gregorio Alvarez asking him to send the records of the negotiations which his country conducted with Great Britain to obtain that nation's permission for the trip of the Argentine relatives.

Foreign Minister on Issue

PY232242 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1952 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Apr (NA) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Juan Aguirre Lanari said today that Argentina is not trying to make a "propaganda issue" out of the trip planned by relatives of Argentine soldiers killed in the Malvinas and indicated that UK Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs Cranley Onslow's remarks on the subject "were not realistic."

Aguirre Lanari reaffirmed that "the trip of the relatives is eminently private, as was pointed out by its organizer, Osvaldo Desterfanis, who did not ask for any government help at all."

Aguirre Lanari made these remarks at the Ezeiza International Airport before leaving for Geneva.

COURT OF HONOR TO EVALUATE GALTIERI'S CONDUCT

PY221512 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1511 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 21 Apr (NA) -- Major General (retired) Eleodoro Sanchez la Hoz has been named to preside over the court of honor that will evaluate the conduct of former President Leopoldo Galtieri, who made remarks about the Malvinas war and in which he mentioned high-ranking Army officers who are on active duty. The Army has not released the names of the other members of the court of honor.

ARMY COMMUNIQUE DENIES GALTIERI INTERVIEW

PY230041 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0910 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Apr (TELAM) -- The Army command has disclosed that General Galtieri catgorically denied having made any statements to the media while serving his arrest sentence, and pointed out that it is obvious that the reports published in this regard are part of a psychological campaign launched with the purpose of discrediting the country and destabilizing the internal front.

In this regard, the Army issued the following communique last night.

In view of press reports published by several dailies of this capital referring to alleged statements made by General Galtieri to a British journalist while serving the punishment ordered by the commander in chief of the Army, the public is hereby informed that:

1. When General Galtieri was questioned on the issue he categorically denied it, asserting that he had made no statements to the media while serving his sentence.

2. It is obvious that these reports form part of a psychological campaign aimed at: A. discrediting the country and the attempt to reassert our sovereignty before the world. B. destabilizing the internal front.

3. It surprises the Army that sectors of the local media allowed this campaign access by publishing material before verifying its origin and truth to the point of not only transcribing a concocted interview, but of using it during radio programs with the purpose of judging behaviors, making false charges and, in sum, sowing uncertainty and discord.

PRESIDENT URGES MINERS TO END COMIBOL OCCUPATION

PY222048 La Paz Domestic Service in Spanish 1713 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Speech by President Hernan Siles Zuazo in La Paz -- live]

[Excerpt] The illegal occupation of Comibol [Mining Corporation of Bolivia] has seriously damaged the Bolivian image abroad, where it could be said that this is a country going adrift, without order, law or authorities.

Internally, it has served as a pretext for the reactionary ultraright to begin a destabilizing process. In the current stage of the historical Bolivian development process, co-management is an advanced measure which represents a gigantic step in the liberation process, because it guarantees an effective participation of the people in the vital decisionmaking powers on issues which concern workers.

However, the form of self-management by workers which they intend to impose on the government is a new political provocation of the ultraleft. And the objectives of this ultraleft parallel those of the pro-imperialist ultraright.

The government wants to clearly establish the difference between co-management and self-management. It is doing so from the outset by using the powers granted by the law, within the framework of dialogue with the workers.

The occupation of Comibol contradicts the patriotic decision to maintain production which the mineworkers made when Comibol technicians went on strike. The technicians and professionals must understand that their strike is not only illegal, but that it runs against the interests of the nation. I urge them to return to their jobs.

In view of this emergency situation, I call my fellow workers from Comibol to immediately begin talks on worker co-management.

I must be categorical in establishing the limits of worker co-management. The government will not implement this measure in private enterprises. The integrated system we propose, and will defend, presupposes the coexistence of co-management in public enterprises with private enterprises and cooperatives.

The government is willing to begin a purge and clean up operation in state institutions. It is also ready to put into effect co-management in state enterprises, but not at the cost of violating the constitutional rules and jeopardizing the government's legitimacy. We are not going to accept illegal and coercive measures. We will discuss the co-management which will make up the basic guideline of our program. But it is obviously necessary to end the illegal occupation of Comibol.

It is deplorable that the illegal occupation of Comibol should have taken place at a time when the threat of hunger lingers in areas affected by drought. It is regrettable that this occupation should have taken place at a time when it is necessary for the government and people of Bolivia to unite efforts and sacrifice to aid our brothers of Oruro, Potosi, La Paz high plateau and the Tarija valleys.

Attitudes such as those that we are criticizing distract the government's attention, weaken its possibilities for taking action and contribute toward closing the doors of international cooperation.

On the other hand, the mineworkers are fully aware of our effort to improve their salaries. We have rewarded their difficult and self-sacrificing labor by granting them a salary adjustment which, without fully compensating the loss of their purchasing power, is -- in proportion -- the highest salary adjustment ever received by any sector of the country.

We have taken this important step in the midst of the worst economic crisis we have ever experienced in our history, and it is an attitude that is in direct contrast with the inhumane salary policies that the miners have suffered during past dictatorships.

Fellow miners, Bolivian people: The importance and depth of the democratic process is deeply rooted in the people's minds. Therefore, the government is sure that, despite the threats and ambitious attitudes of the extremists, the Bolivian people will come out ahead in the struggle for consolidating democracy and in firming up the prospects of the national revolution.

In conclusion, for the good of the fatherland, I urge the hardworking miners who do not want the return of authoritarian regimes, to think over the occupation of Comibol and to support the legal participation of workers in conducting the productive apparatus of the foremost state enterprise of the country, at a moment when all Bolivians must contribute decisively to the economic recovery of our country. Thank you.

Lechin Reaction to Siles Speech

PY230142 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Juan Lechin Oquendo, executive secretary of the Bolivian Labor Federation, COB, and the Mineworkers Federation of Bolivia, FSTMB, has termed offensive and aggressive the speech made to the nation by constitutional President Hernan Siles Zuazo in connection with Comibol's [Mining Corporation of Bolivia] intervention by the FSTMB.

The leader of Bolivia's workers stated that the mineworkers will give an official response to Siles Zuazo's speech during a general meeting of mineworkers to be held in La Paz on Sunday.

Further on, Lechin Oquendo stated that the workers totally support the measure adopted by the FSTMB, adding that all the aspects of President Siles Zuazo's speech will be discussed during the meeting. We are adopting a cool attitude in the wake of President Siles Zuazo's aggressive and offensive speech, Lechin Oquendo stated.

[Begin recording] [Lechin] I hope that we will adopt a cool but strict position during the meeting.

[Question] If the FSTMB adopts a strong position, would you take into account the critical situation the country is experiencing and the fact that anarchy would favor coup attempts?

[Answer] Well, it would be necessary to find out first who is responsible for the anarchy.

[Question] The president considers that the FSTMB measure is anarchic.

[Answer] That is the president's view. I repeat that the general meeting will give an official response. [end recording]

MIR Leader on Comibol

PY221740 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Excerpt] At the end of a meeting with the mineworkers' leaders who decided to intervene in the Mining Corporation of Bolivia (Comibol), Oscar Eid Franco, leader of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), made some statements to the media.

In the first place he pointed out that the miners' attitude represents a stabilizing factor for the country's democratic process because the mineworkers guarantee the continuity of the work carried out by the main state-owned mining enterprise.

Oscar Eid Franco also referred to the MIR's return to the government. Rumors state that this party will resume its government activities in May. This is what Oscar Eid Franco had to say:

[Begin Eid recording] We could say that there is a certain delay, that we are not keeping an adequate pace, as required by the country, to promptly solve this issue. Undoubtedly this matter, which we are commenting on, is -- in our opinion -- being influenced by the overall political problems in addition to the miners' problems, both of which are equally important. In this sense there is a certain delay in the political process which in turn is causing a delay in solving the miners' problem in the best way possible. However, we were willing to postpone the political discussions within the Democratic and Popular Unity (UDP). [end recording]

Support for Miners' Intervention

PY242203 Paris AFP in Spanish 0225 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] La Paz, 22 Apr (AFP) -- If President Hernan Siles wants to put an end to the workers intervention of the Mining Corporation of Bolivia (Comibol), he will have to send us the (police) authorities, as he has threatened, Juan Lechin Oquendo, Bolivia's top workers leader, said here today.

These words were the initial response to the head of state's message, which said that the creation of a Comibol Administrative Council run by the workers was a flagrant violation of the national constitution.

The full answer to the president will be given after a meeting of general secretaries and rank and file delegates of the Mineworkers Federation of Bolivia who will meet next Sunday.

Meanwhile, the Single Peasant Workers Union Confederation of Bolivia (CSUTCB), led by Genaro Flores Santos, pledged its complete solidarity to their fellow miners and decided to block the roads in three altiplano provinces (La Paz, Oruro and Potosi). The road-blocks, which became effective Friday noon, also seek to call the government's attention to a 12-item document that sets forth urgent economic claims of that sector.

When the journalists asked Lechin if it was true as Siles Zuazo had claimed that the workers intervention in the country's most important government-owned enterprise had caused a bad impression abroad, he answered that the workers attitude had obviously displeased the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the U.S. Embassy and the reactionary sectors of the country.

Asked about the stance to be taken in the future in this dispute by Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora, who had initially sided with the workers intervention, Lechin said: You should ask him now whom he is siding with. A few minutes later, the vice president stated that the intervention of Comibol should abide by the laws and bear in mind the defense of the democratic process.

The worsening of the confrontation between the COB (Bolivian Labor Federation) and the government had, among other repercussions, the indefinite postponement of the trip which President Siles had planned to make to Peru and Spain later this month in response to invitations issued by Fernando Belaunde and the Spanish head of government, Felipe Gonzalez.

Amid all this restlessness, a local radio station reported the resignation of Foreign Minister Velarde Dorado. This information had to be refuted later on through an official communique.

Congressional sessions were adjourned due to lack of quorum, as the Bolivian Communist Party (PCB) was absent, because its two ministers, Roberto Arnez and Carlos Barragan, of labor and mining respectively, were reporting on the mining crisis. Unconfirmed reports indicated that Arnez and Barragan could resign rather than face impeachment by the legislative branch.

In the meantime, Guillermo Lora, the leader of the Revolutionary Workers Party (PDR), of Trotskyist leanings -- who back in 1946 had already advocated the occupation of the mines by the workers in his well-known Pulacayo thesis -- said that the mining districts of the country were in the hands of their legitimate owners.

Supporting this position, the rightist Bolivian Socialist Falange (FSB) pointed out, through their leader, Freddy Cerruto, that by opposing the workers intervention of Comibol, Siles Zuazo had made it clear to the country that he is a servant of the interests of the bourgeoisie.

Jose Maria Palacios, spokesman for the Socialist Party One (PS-1), which was founded by the assassinated parliamentarian Marcelo Guiroga Santa Cruz, declared his full support for the intervention of the government-owned mining enterprise.

Finally, the foremost leader of the country's railroad workers, Gonzalo Guzman, who is also an important member of the National Revolutionary Movement of the Left (MNRI) (the ruling party), assured that the workers in his sector support the miners' self-determination regardless of consequences.

Peasants Faction Supports Takeover

PY221725 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Excerpts] The workers and peasant movement of the National Revolutionary Movement of the Left (MNRI) fully supports the decision of the Minerworkers Federation of Bolivia to intervene in the Mining Corporation of Bolivia (Comibol).

In a communique issued on Wednesday by this faction of the MNRI, it is pointed out that the presence of the workers' movement and that of its most representative unions in the management and administration of the state-owned productive enterprises should be fully supported by all Bolivians.

PRESIDENT SILES ZUAZO POSTPONES TRIP TO PERU

PY221825 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Excerpt] President Hernan Siles Zuazo has decided to postpone his trip to Peru as a consequence of the natural disasters that are adversely affecting both Bolivia and Peru.

Siles Zuazo was to have visited Lima at the end of this month to meet with his Peruvian counterpart Fernando Belaunde Terry and discuss subjects related to mutual cooperation in the economic, trade, cultural and technological fields.

The date for the trip was initially postponed until 4 May, but later it was postponed indefinitely, according to a communique released by the Foreign Ministry.

GOVERNMENT DENIES MINISTER'S RESIGNATION

PY232300 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Yesterday the Foreign Ministry issued a press communique denying press reports on the alleged resignation of Foreign Minister Mario Velarde Dorado.

INTERNATIONAL ROUNDTABLE OF ECONOMICS CONCLUDES

Planning Minister's Address

PY212025 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Planning Minister Arturo Nunez del Prado referred to the country's economic crisis, Bolivia's propsects and the development policy yesterday afternoon in his address to the representatives attending the roundtable for international cooperation for Bolivia being held at the Central Bank of Bolivia.

After depicting the somber situation which prevailed in the country last year before the Democratic and Popular Unity Party (UDP) took over the government, he stated that the confederation of Bolivian businessmen informed the new government about the disastrous situation and noted that at that time four to five enterprises closed down every month.

The minister pointed out that despite the lack of information it can be pointed out that during the past 2 years unemployment has increased and exports have dropped by at least 2 percent.

In referring to the Bolivian foreign debts the minister stated that 75 percent of Bolivia's exports are destined to meet the country's foreign commitments and only 25 percent to cover imports. In this regard he pointed out that the trade deficit amounts to exorbitant figures which gives an idea of how serious the situation had become.

According to the minister this disastrous situation prompted a number of demands made by the working class which had to be taken into account. In this regard there have been some positive developments such as a salary increase which has restored the worker's purchasing power somewhat, a curbing of inflation, and a dropping of the price index, which reached 16 percent, has dropped to 9 percent and is continuing to drop.

Unemployment has not dropped but neither has the number of bankrupt enterprises increased.

Vice President Closes Roundtable

PY240013 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora closed the international roundtable meeting on international aid for Bolivia. The closing ceremony took place on the second floor of the Central Bank of Bolivia. In his address to the participants, who represent important international financing organizations, the vice president stated that the events which took place in the country during the past few days, which they had witnessed, must be regarded as a legitimate demonstration of the country's true democratic spirit, since the sectors which staged the events are the ones which sought changes and have attained a peaceful transition toward democracy.

[Begin Paz recording] Therefore, we should reflect over these events, we should reflect over them openly with our friends who give us their support by being here to give us a hand in this challenge.

The first thing I would like to point out is that this attitude adopted by the peasants and mineworkers is not against the democratic process, it is not an attitude aimed at contradicting this process in which all Bolivians are engaged. The fact is, my dear friends, that for these people with a background of so much struggle, democracy means a great effort. For them democracy cannot be achieved without deep changes in this country's (?history). [end recording]

In his speech at the closing ceremony of the international roundtable on international aid for Bolivia, the vice president requested that the miners attitude not be regarded as an extremist attitude. [Begin Paz recording] Therefore, I want to make sure that you are all aware that this is not an extremist action aimed at violating the rights of property in this country. Do not be misguided my friends, it would be a great mistake. It must be pointed out that, within the framework of the country's history, it represents an action directed against a state-owned enterprise [words indistinct] from a sector of our population, the mineworkers, who in the past -- within this same process of national revolution -- already had the chance of taking part in the Bolivian state's administration with their participation in the joint government which was established during the first years of the revolution. [end recording]

This was the speech delivered on Friday at the closing ceremony of the international roundtable on international aid for Bolivia.

DANGER OF SURINAME'S 'CUBANIZATION' AVERTED

PY230059 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 20 Apr 83 p 7

[Excerpts] After the mission which was successfully carried out last weekend by Minister Danilo Venturini, secretary general to the National Security Council, the Brazilian Government is convinced that the danger of Suriname's "Cubanization" has been averted, even taking into account the intense effort being made by Cuba's diplomatic representatives.

On Sunday, Minister Venturini was received in the presidential palace at 1100 and awarded the Great Sash of the Yellow Star, the highest decoration which the Surinamese Government accords foreign authorities. In the afternoon, Minister Venturini met again with Lt Col Deysi Bouterse. In Brasilia, a witness to those meetings reported that "respecting the principle of noninterference in the internal affairs of Suriname," Minister Venturini tried to demonstrate to Colonel Bouterse the importance of preserving South America from conflicts "which have nothing to do with Brazil or Suriname."

In the speech he delivered during the decoration ceremony, Armed Forces Chief Commander Lt Col Deysi Bouterse emphatically expressed his opinion for South America by stating "Suriname for the Surinamese, Brazil for the Brazilians, and South America for the South Americans."

A member of the Brazilian delegation said: "It became clear to us that those words were an expression of a consensus and of the guarantee that Suriname's opting for South America has solid and durable foundations, and that it promises benefits both for South America and Brazil."

The benefits alluded to by the member of the delegation were the subject of long conversations between Venturini and Bouterse. They refer to the work of several commissions and the strengthening of friendship agreements providing for Brazil's effective assistance to Suriname after it was isolated by The Netherlands and the United States beginning on 8 December when Bouterse ordered the execution of 15 political leaders. During his talks with Venturini, Bouterse justified those executions with the allegation that they were plotting a counterrevolution.

GOVERNMENT DISCUSSES ARMS; UNLOADS LIBYAN PLANES

Foreign Minister's Reaction

PY221310 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Excerpt] [Begin relayed report from Brasilia by Carlos Rodrigues] Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro said that Brazil is dealing with this incident [Libyan planes] very carefully to avoid damaging relations with Libya.

Aeronautics Minister Delio Jardim de Mattos feels that Libya's cooperation is very important in the inspection of the airplanes' cargo. The aeronautics minister also thinks that there is a very remote possibility that these airplanes may be carrying Brazilian-made weapons purchased by Libya and now being transferred to other countries.

This situation was discussed again yesterday here in Brasilia by Foreign Ministry representatives at the National Security Council with the participation of Military Household Chief Gen Rubem Ludwig. The Brazilian Government is still awaiting an answer from Libya. [end relayed report]

Nicaraguan Ambassador Comments

PY221610 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 21 Apr 83 p 6

[Excerpt] Nicaraguan Ambassador Ernesto Gutierrez said yesterday that he does not know what kind of cargo the Libyan planes were taking to his country. According to him, all that he knows about the episode is what has been reported. He could not say whether his government knew anything about the nature of the cargo.

The ambassador said that his participation in this case began Sunday night upon receiving instructions from Managua to assist the Libyan ambassador in Brazil to obtain permission from Colombia for the four Libyan planes, which landed in Brazil enroute to Nicaragua with a cargo of donations, to enter that country's air space.

"We went together to talk with our Colombian colleague and permission was granted. The Colombian ambassador at no time asked about the nature of the donation, and the Libyan ambassador did not provide any information."

Ambassador Gutierrez said that Nicaragua is always asking assistance from friendly country's to carry on its own struggle for survival, and that such assistance is always given in the form of food, medicine or arms, mainly ammunitions.

The Nicaraguan ambassador added that Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto personally phoned on Monday to Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro to request the release of the planes. After that, Ambassador Gutierrez' only contact with Brazilian authorities was on Tuesday when he went to Itamaraty seeking an answer. He was then informed by Itamaraty's Secretary General Baena Soares that the answer was already conveyed to Managua: The planes were retained because they were loaded with arms, not medicines.

The Nicaraguan ambassador said that he no longer had any contact with Brazilian authorities and that he expected not to have any unless he receives instructions from his government or Itamaraty summons him.

In Managua, a spokesman for the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry said yesterday that he had learned "only through international press agencies" about the problem in Brazil involving four Libyan planes carrying arms for Nicaragua. The spokesman added that the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry "has not received any complaint from the Brazilian Government over the interception of the four planes, because the Brazilian Government filed a protest with the Libyan, not the Nicaraguan, government."

Colombian Ambassador German Fonnegra, in turn, denied reports that he had notified the Brazilian Government about the nature of the Libyan planes' cargo being taken to Nicaragua. He said that, just like Brazil, he only had information that the planes were carrying medicines and surgical material for Nicaragua. The Colombian ambassador said that his participation was very small, that he limited himself to secure his government's permission -- like the one given by Venezuela -- for the planes to fly through Colombian air space.

Ambassador Fonnegra also said that those requests are frequently made and, therefore, not not subject to many formalities, so much so that the permission was granted on Monday after a phone call to Bogota.

The DPA agency added that, in interviews with Colombian radio, Ambassador Fonnegra had stated that there was no reason to deny the permission, but accused the Libyan Government of deceiving the Brazilian authorities by using the name of Colombia as a cover-up for the planes' real cargo. According to him, Libya had claimed that medicines and other forms of assistance for the victims of the Popayan earthquake were being shipped. However, the Colombian Civil Aeronautics Department denied that any request had been made for the landing of those planes in Popayan.

The AP agency reported that, as soon as the news that the cargo was not medicines began to circulate, Colombia also cancelled permission to fly in their airspace.

Technicians Inspect Cargo

PY222155 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 22 Apr 83 p 5

[Excerpts] Local military equipment manufacturers reported yesterday in Sao Paulo that the cargo of the Libyan planes detained in Manaus includes Soviet-made light rifles and ammunition (the origin of which was not revealed). This information was diclosed by the manufacturers' technicians who accompanied the Brazilian officials who inspected the cargo of the Ilyushin planes.

The technicians are thoroughly familiar with arms because they operate in the international market. However, manufacturers refused to reveal which government agency asked them to send their technicians.

The same sources noted that although Brazilian-made military equipment has a tradition in the Libyan market, the episode will not harm the Brazilian military industry, because "it offers high quality products at competitive prices."

Late in the afternoon in Manaus, technicians of a manufacturer that exported arms to Libya told a company executive that the cargo included Soviet-made rifles and ammunition (the origin of which was not disclosed). The executive said: "We already knew that! Now we are certain."

Aeronautics Ministry on Planes' Landing

PY222213 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 22 Apr 83 p 4

[Excerpts] Brasilia (O GLOBO) -- Gen Rubem Ludwig, chief of the Military Household, said yesterday that the decision of the Brazilian Government to inspect the cargo of the Libyan airplane was aimed at preserving national sovereignty without considering economic factors such as an eventual increase of exports. He admitted the possibility that the arms transported by the airplanes could be Brazilian-made:

That possibility as well as the possibility of their being from another origin exist. This will be found out after the cargo is inspected, said the minister.

In Sao Paulo, military sources reported that the Aeronautics Ministry reportedly received a communication in advance from the Libyan airplanes about the cargo they were transporting.

Permission to land with no length of stay restrictions was granted. This was confirmed by the permission given to the three Ilyushin airplanes to take off from Recife. In this regard, the sources indicated that during the landings, both at the Recife and Manaus airports, the Libyan airplanes observed all the special aeronautics procedures related to airplanes transporting arms and ammunition.

Foreign Minister Discusses Incident

PY222322 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 22 Apr 83 p 4

[Text] Brasilia (O GLOBO) -- Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro said yesterday that the Brazilian Government was not aware that the Libyan planes that were allowed to land in Brazilian territory were carrying arms. He stressed that the nature of the cargo was discovered "absolutely by chance."

The situation involving the cargo will be negotiated after making an inventory of it, but, according to the ministery, "Brazil certainly isn't a pirate state and will not keep arms which do not belong to it."

Saraiva Guerreiro said that the Libyan planes incident is being dealt with simply and objectively, and even though the matter is delicate, neither Brazil nor Libya have the intention of turning it into an issue that may cause bilateral relations to deteriorate.

The Brazilian minister pointed out that the fact that the arms may or may not be Brazilian-made is "completely irrelevant," since Brazil imposes no restrictions concerning arms resale on purchasers. The rule followed by the Brazilian Government, Saraiva Guerreiro said, is not to sell arms whenever regional equilibrium could be destroyed.

Saraiva Guerrero denied reports that the Brazilian Government or government sectors had prior knowledge or suspected the actual nature of the Libyan planes' cargo. He also strongly denied a report published by "THE NEW YORK TIMES" yesterday that the U.S. Embassy in Brasilia insisted that the Brazilian Government seize the arms.

Commenting on the request to overfly and land on Brazilian territory that the Libyan Foreign Ministry submitted to the Brazilian Embassy in Tripoli, Saraiva Guerreiro said: "The Brazilian Government could not suppose that the Libyan Government was telling a lie in its official note."

"Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's public statement deploring the false information has certainly been welcomed and has helped to reduce and minimize the effects of this incident," the minister said. "But, " he added, "that will neither lead to the suspension of nor prevent the enactment of the measures related to the incident itself."

According to the minister, the incident will not cause a deterioration of Brazilian-Nicaraguan relations. Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto sent a telegram to Saraiva Guerreiro telling him that it was very important for Nicaragua to receive that donation. The Brazilian answer, which was given on the same day, specified that Brazil did not question the donation, but that it had to adopt measures in view of the falst information that was provided.

Libyan Charge d'Affaires Abdulatif Khalifa Buker, accompanied by an assistant, visited Itamaraty yesterday, but he gave no reply to the invitation extended by the Brazilian Foreign Ministry for a Libyan representative to witness the inventory of the cargo of the Libyan planes detained in Manaus and Recife.

Buker is due to return to Itamaraty early today to give an answer. Yesterday he refused to give any information on the case. He would answer reporters' questions by saying, in Portuguese, that he did not speak Portuguese. He was met by Joao Augusto Medicis, head of the Department of Near East Affairs.

Meanwhile, government sources report that Brazil and Libya are searching for an honorable solution for the two countries. Even though the Libyan Government has not formally answered the Brazilian protest, the Libyan Embassy has handed over to Itamaraty an official note carrying the statement Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi made to Libya's official news agency. Itamaraty Secretary General Baena Soares met with Minister Rubem Ludwig, the chief of the military cabinet, yesterday afternoon. No details of the meeting were given.

U.S. Help in Incident Denied

PY222341 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] In a statement to newsmen in Rio de Janeiro, Air Minister Delio Jardim de Matos today denied any U.S. Government involvement in the seizure of the Libyan planes which are being held at Recife and Manaus airports suspected of carrying arms for Nicaragua. The minister denied a report released by THE NEW YORK TIMES that Brazil had received information from U.S. secret services that the planes were carrying arms. [recorded passage indistinct] The minister also noted that the Brazilian officials were completely unaware of the fact that the planes were carrying arms. They were allowed to land at Itamaraty's request, he said.

Concerning Brazilian-Libyan relations, the minister said the two countries maintain a busy trade in which the Brazilian Aeronautics Company also takes part; that this was an act of national sovereignty; and expressed his belief that the incident will not affect their trade relations primarily because aviation is aviation and arms are arms.

Army Occupies Manaus Airport

PY230054 Paris AFP in Spanish 0026 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Manaus, Brazil, 22 Apr (AFP) -- Members of the Brazilian Army occupied the Manaus airport this afternoon where three Libyan airplanes have been held since last weekend on charges by the Brazilian Government that they are carrying arms for Nicaragua. Troops of the 1st Jungle Combat Batallion took over the airfield and all airport facilities and evacuated all civilians, including journalists.

The Brazilian Government decided that the cargo of the three Ilyushin airplanes will be unloaded at Manaus airport tomorrow for inspection by military technicians and that all military materiel will be confiscated. It was officially reported in Brasilia today that the other Libyan airplane, a Hercules C-130, held in Recife with a breakdown, will also be inspected by Brazilian military experts.

The Brazilian officials justified their decision by citing the 1944 Chicago Convention which prohibits overflights and landings of airplanes carrying arms without the authorization of a government. According to Brazilian official sources, when Libya requested authorization for the four airplanes to land, it said the planes were carrying medicine.

Inspection Begins, Cargo Confirmed

PY231948 Paris AFP in Spanish 1605 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Brasilia, 23 Apr (AFP) -- The cargo of the four Libyan planes which are being held in Brazil is entirely of arms, explosives and ammunition, presidential spokesman Carlos Atila announced today in Brasilia.

In a simultaneous operation which began at 0030 (0330 GMT), personnel of the Brazilian Armed Forces entered the Libyan planes -- three Ilyushin in Manaus and one Hercules C-130 in Recife -- to inspect their content. The planes were enroute to the Nicaraguan capital of Managua, it was noted here in Brasilia.

More on Inspection, Unloading

PY231955 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1712 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Concerning the case of the Libyan planes held in Brazil; at 1413 (1713 GMT), we contacted our correspondent in Brasilia, Sandra Carvalho. [Relay from Brasilia] The four Libyan planes which have been here in Brazil since last Sunday have already been inspected and unloaded by the Brazilian Air Force (FAB). Arms, ammunition and explosives destined for Nicaragua were found inside. This information was made public by presidential spokesman Carlos Atila. In a simultaneous operation carried out in Manaus and Recife, the Soviet-made Ilyushins and the U.S.-made Hercules C-141 [as heard] were entered by FAB personnel with no difficulty, at 0030 (0330 GMT) in Manaus and at 1130 (0230 GMT) in Recife. The Eduardo Gomes Airport of Manaus was closed and the operation was led by Brigadier (Pires) of the 7th Air Command.

Before entering the planes, the Planalto Palace commission which was charged with inspecting the planes reported to the Tropical Hotel [in Manaus] where the Libyan crew is lodged and invited the crew to participate in the inspection. The invitation was turned down and so the FAB decided, without cooperation from the Libyans, to study the hydraulic system of the Ilyusins so that they could be hauled away from the airport passenger terminal to be unloaded. The same procedure was followed in Recife. The FAB personnel entered the Hercules C-141 [as heard] which is parked on the Guararapes Airport at 1130 (0230 GMT), without the Libyans' cooperation. It was verified that its cargo was the same, that is, explosives, arms and ammunition.

The Planalto Palace commission will also inspect the cargo of the plane at the Guararapes Airport. A report along with an inventory of the cargo will be submitted to President Joao Figueiredo who will then decide what to do with it and whether to permit its return to Tripoli. Up until now, the Planalto Palace does not know if the arms are Brazilian made, as was speculated in some newspapers. [end relay]

More on Unloading

PY240035 Paris AFP in Spanish 2301 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Brasilia, 23 Apr (AFP) -- Presidential spokesman Carlos Atila this afternoon in Brasilia reported that the unloading of arms, explosives and ammunition from the four Libyan planes that are being held at Brazilian airports began today and will be finished on Sunday.

He also said that military personnel are making an inventory of the cargo which is being transferred to a C-115 Brazilian Air Force plane which will carry it to the Manaus Air Base where it will be kept for security reasons.

After explaining that representatives of the Brazilian Foreign Ministry and of the National Security Council are overseeing the task of the military experts, Atila said that the unloading, the inventory and the transfer of military materiel will last into Saturday night and probably Sunday as well.

According to the presidential spokesman, the operation was delayed because of the Brazilian Government's concern to do everything possible through diplomatic channels to have representatives of the Libyan Government present at the unloading.

He also said that the Brazilian diplomats took into account every diplomatic rule and regulation, bearing in mind the good relations between Brazil and Libya and added that the Brazilian Government took every care to avoid damaging the planes and to guarantee the highest degree of safety possible during the unloading of the materiel.

Meanwhile, the Brazilian Aeronautics Ministry reported today to the Brazilian Foreign Ministry that after the cargo is unloaded the four Libyan planes will be able to continue their trip to Nicaragua or to return to Tripoli.

Arms of Soviet, U.S. Make

PY240049 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0012 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Text] Brasilia, 23 Apr (TELAM-EFE) -- A spokesman of the Brazilian Aeronautics Ministry tonight said that the arms on board the Libyan Hercules C-130 plane, arms which according to the Colombian Government were going to M-19 terrorists, are U.S. and Soviet made.

The plane was inspected today at the Guararapes Airport of Recife and, once unloaded, it was set free together with the 9 crew members, to return to Libya.

The cargo of the Hercules plane, which has not been reported in detail, has been stored at a maximum security location awaiting inventory by military experts who worked all day today with the other three Libyan planes which are being held at the Eduardo Gomes Airport of Manaus.

Unloaded Planes Released

PY242143 Paris AFP in Spanish 2113 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Text] Brasilia, 24 Apr (AFP) -- The four Libyan planes which have been held up at Brazilian airports for a week were released today, and they can leave for any destination. The planes had been loaded with arms, ammunition and explosives, which the Brazilian Government decided to seize.

An official communique from the presidential press secretariat reported that the unloading of all the war materiel being transported in the four Libyan aircraft was completed at 1300 GMT today.

The Brazilian Government notified the commanders of the three Iluyshin planes, being held at the Manaus airport, that they are free to leave Brazilian territory immediately for any destination, and that the fourth plane, which is at the Recife airport, will be able to leave as soon as it is repaired, the official communique stated.

Planes' Cargo To Be Returned

PY250119 Paris AFP in Spanish 2249 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Brasilia, 24 Apr (AFP) -- The war materiel [in Libyan planes in Manaus and Recife] was removed and stored at a military airbase depot, the Presidential Press Secretariat [SPP] reported in a communique. The communique concluded by saying that the Brazilian Government will return, through a different means of transportation, the war materiel removed from the Libyan planes at Manaus and Recife.

The SPP official communique did not reveal the origin of the materiel seized, although military sources indicated that the arms, ammunition and explosives are of Soviet and U.S. manufacture. The Brazilian Government will release information regarding the cargo seized when military technicians complete the inventory of the materiel.

Air traffic officials, who for security reasons had closed the Manaus airport on Friday, reopened it today, Sunday, at 1600 GMT after the 1st Jungle Battallion left the airport. Tonight military personnel were still guarding the four Libyan planes, the crews of which are lodged in hotels and refused to talk to the press.

GOVERNMENT OBTAINS $1.5 BILLION LOAN IN LONDON

PY232255 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 20 Apr 83 p 17

[Excerpt] London -- Sixteen international banks headed by the Morgan Guaranty Trust of the United States concluded talks yesterday with representatives of the Brazilian Government, of the Central Bank and of Cacex [Foreign Trade Department] about the needs for short-term resources for the country to overcome the difficulties faced by commerce and the balance of payments, two sectors that fell short of the anticipated goals for the first quarter of this year.

For immediate action, it was decided to secure over $1.5 billion for the interbank credit lines (deposits of foreign banks in Brazilian banks abroad) to bring them up to the ceiling level of $7.5 billion.

This $1.5 billion, however, is only half of what the country needs in a short term, as was recalled yesterday by a spokesman of one of the two British banks involved in the negotiations. According to this spokesman, the data and numbers analyzed during the 2-day meeting "indicate that Brazil is again $3-billion short in its necessary liquidity level.

TWO SUSPECTED EXTREMISTS KILLED, THREE ARRESTED

PY230314 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 20 Apr 83 pp 1, 10

[Excerpts] Two extremists who had illegally entered the country were killed yesterday morning by security forces in a shootout that took place at the intersection of Villaseca and Capitan Orella streets, in Nunoa.

The extremists were identified as Anibal Osorio Perez, 30, whose political name was "Cecilio," who, after going into exile returned to Chile under "Operation Return," and Manuel Genaro Flores Duran, a 27-year-old student who was also in exile and who illegally returned to the country, whose political name was "Sebastian." Both extremists were carrying false identification cards issued to Juan Carlos Moraga and Hugo Excobar Martinez, respectively.

The Public Relations Department of the National Intelligence Service [CNI] issued pictures and details of the shootout yesterday, in which the two extremists -- who were members of the Central Force combat group of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR] -- were killed and of the arrest of three more extremists in downtown Santiago last Monday morning.

Security sources have reported that the arrest of MIR activist Raul Enrique Flores Castillo last Monday was a decisive step, which allowed the police to locate the weapons hidden by the extremists killed yesterday.

The first of the two communiques released by the CNI states: "At 1030 on 18 April 1983, security personnel caught three persons while they were engaging in subversive activities. They managed to escape but were later arrested by security forces.

"The extremists were identified as Raul Enrique Flores Castillo, who was going under the false name of Luis Ezequiel Cruz Reyes, whose political name is Ruben and who was in charge of the masses of Santiago. He was arrested at the intersection of San Martin and Agustinas streets.

"Jose Luis Azocar Rocha, who was going under the false name of Luis Acevedo Munoz, whose political name is Pepe and who is a MIR member. At the time of his arrest, he was carrying a .38 caliber Colt revolver and a hand grenade.

"Blanca Rosa Carrasco Ahumada, 25, was arrested at the intersection of Toro Mazote and Conde del Monte streets. On 3 June 1981 she was arrested by the Police Investigative Department in compliance with a search warrant issued by the second judge advocate of Santiago. At that time she was inside the Metropolitan Cathedral on a hunger strike."

MINISTRY ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON LIBYAN PLANES

PA230132 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 2350 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Press communique issued by the Colombian Foreign Ministry in Bogota; date not specified -- read by announcer]

[Text] 1. The Civil Aeronautics Administrative Department, in response to a request received from Tripoli on 15 April 1983 in Message No 151447, authorized the overflight of Colombian territory by four Libyan commercial planes.

2. On 18 April 1983 the Foreign Ministry received two notes, one from the Colombian Embassy in Brasilia and another from the Colombian Embassy in Panama City, repeating the request by the Libyan Government for the overflight of Colombian territory by four Libyan commercial planes that were in Brazil at that time, and which had Nicaragua as their final destination. A similar request was made to the Venezuelan Government, stating that the planes were carrying medical supplies for Nicaragua.

3. Since the request was made for overflight by commercial planes, without any stopover in Colombia, and in view of the information we had received regarding the nature of the shipment, the Foreign Ministry -- after consulting with the Justice Ministry -- confirmed the authorization for the overflight.

4. The Defense Ministry, however, immediately informed the Air Force and issued instructions to guarantee strict compliance with the overflight under the terms of the authorization. These and other precautionary measures were adopted in view of previous information obtained by military intelligence services on the possible arrival of weapons from another country for a subversive group.

5. On 20 April, the Colombian Embassy in Brasilia reported the following.

A. According to Brazilian television and newspapers the Libyan planes had Colombia as their destination. This story was denied by the Colombian Embassy, with the clarification that the authorization granted was exclusively for an overflight, without any stopover.

B. The Brazilian Government had authorized the aircrafts' technical stopover and overflight on the understanding that they were carrying medicines for Nicaragua.

C. Due to mechanical problems, one of the planes had to be repaired in Recife. As a result, Brazilian authorities detected that the nature of its cargo was different than that officially declared.

6. Article 35 of the International Civil Aviation Agreement signed in Chicago on 7 December 1944 states that commercial planes are not allowed to transport ammunition or war materiel within or over any state's territory without its authorization. The Libyan request and the Colombian authorization referred to the overflight of commercial aircraft. No request was made or granted for transportation of war materiel. Thus, if the conditions of the request were totally or partially false, this could be considered a deception, compelling the Colombian Government to definitely deny the flight of these planes over its territory, and to proceed with appropriate diplomatic actions required by the situation.

Meanwhile, while awaiting the results of the inspection and inventory of the cargo by Brazilian authorities, the Colombian Government has notified its embassy in Brasilia that the authorization for overflight has been suspended.

One To Have Landed in Putumayo

PA222246 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Bogota -- The Libyan planes retained by the Brazilian Government in that country were carrying 140,000 kg of weapons of all kinds and 173 men, who were not necessarily Libyan, Military Forces Commander Gen Gustavo Matamoros has explained. According to Matamoros, several Colombian guerrillas, who traveled to Libya earlier this year for military training, were in the planes.

According to the flight plan for the four planes detained by the Brazilian authorities, one of them was to land in one of the airports in Putumayo to unload its weapons. From there, it would go on to Nicaragua, where it would join the other three in Managua.

As the Colombian Government, which Libya (?deceived) when it requested permission for its aircraft to overfly Colombian territory, has been informed, the Brazilian authorities have decided to seize the weapons, to retain the individuals found in the planes and to return the planes to the Tripoli regime of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi sends a personal representative to Brasilia.

Government May Lodge Protest

PA221426 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Today the Colombian Government will consider lodging a formal protest with Libya over the attempt to invade our territory with weapons for subversive groups and to violate our national sovereignty. Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo has described this action as unfriendly.

The minister, who has returned from a crucial peace conference on Central America, said that Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's acknowledgement that the four planes that arrived in Brazil were indeed taking weapons to Nicaragua proves the level of foreign intervention in regional affairs and is the kind of action that does not help to alleviate the tension in that convulsed area.

According to Minister Lloreda, Brazil was apparently deceived, since it was told that the planes bore a cargo of medicine. Colombia, he said, had not been deceived because it was merely asked for permission to use its airspace, in accordance with the laws of international aeronautics. One assumes that flights are of a peaceful nature, which is generally why permits are granted, the minister explained.

He later described the incident as an unpleasant experience for Brazil, which, he said, will make whatever sovereign pronouncement best suits its own interests. He did not dismiss a possible study by the Colombian authorities in view of a charge by armed forces Commander Gen Gustavo Matamoros that one of the Libyan aircraft wanted to land in Mocoa, Villagarzon or Puerto Asis to leave weapons for the guerrillas.

Asked whether he had discussed the topic of the weapons with his Nicaraguan counterpart, Miguel D'Escoto, in Panama yesterday, he asnswered: I can't disclose what we discussed privately.

Defense Minister on Weapons

PA222022 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1908 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Bogota, 22 Apr (DPA) -- Colombian Defense Minister General Fernando Landazabal Reyes has said that the military secret services were aware of the plan to being in Libyan weapons for the Colombian guerrillas and that everyone was prepared to frustrate the attempt.

In an interview with a CARACOL Radio Network journalist, Landazabal Reyes said that because of remarks to newsmen by Jaime Bateman, leader of the 19 April Movement (M-19), about a spectacular action that the group was preparing to celebrate its 13th anniversary, and because of reports from other sources, the Colombian military forces were aware of the plan to bring the arms shipment into Colombia.

Landazabal Reyes said that on the basis of available information, the armed forces command mounted a special operation called "Hawk View 4" involving army, navy and air force units which patrolled the Pacific coast area to prevent the entry of the weapons shipment.

The minister said that when the authorities learned of the Libyan request to fly over Colombian territory, they knew how the shipment was going to be brought in and the necessary measures were taken. These measures led to the death of five M-19 guerrillas in Puerto Asis, where the Libyan planes were presumably going to land.

Gen Landazabal Reyes said that it is possible that the people aboard the four Libyan planes might have included M-19 guerrillas, because the Colombian secret services have information that many M-19 members traveled to that country in order to receive military training. However, he added that this is being investigated and has yet to be confirmed.

The minister said that the Colombian Armed Forces have other information about new deliveries of weapons for the guerrillas, but he refused to give details so as not to damage the investigations that are under way. Landazabal said that the money the extremists have obtained from the payment of ransom for kidnap victims is not exactly spent "to go to the movies."

The defense minister is currently meeting with Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo. The Colombian Government is expected to issue a statement on this matter tonight.

Brazilian Diplomats Threatened

PA231933 Paris AFP in Spanish 1626 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Bogota, 23 Apr (AFP) -- The Colombian 19 April Movement (M-19) has telephoned threats to several Brazilian diplomats in Bogota. The M-19 demands that the diplomats pressure their government to release the Libyan planes carrying weapons for the group. The aircraft have been held in Brazil since early this week.

The Defense Ministry in Bogota revealed that the threats followed the release of a report that the Brazilian authorities had detained four Libyan planes in Recife and Manaos. The aircraft were supposedly en route to Managua, but it was later established that at least one was headed for Colombia.

"The military attache of the Brazilian Embassy in Bogota, Vicente Coutinho, received several threatening phone calls from individuals who identified themselves as M-19 members," the military spokesman said. The spokesman noted that the Brazilian Embassy in this capital is being placed under special guard.

Army Brigade on M-19 Training

PA231952 Paris AFP in Spanish 1639 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Cali, Colombia, 23 Apr (AFP) -- A group of 22 19 April Movement (M-19) guerrillas went to Libya for training in December 1982, according to the 3d Army Brigade in Cali.

A military spokesman said that according to information obtained by the brigade, the subversive group went to Libya to learn to operate sophisticated weapons.

He added that the group sent to Libya was headed by Humberto Ruiz Gomez, a former Colombian Air Force instructor and former professor at a local military aviation school.

The military source said that among the guerrillas who went to Libya with false passports were Maria Clemencia Sandoval, Pompilio Aragon and others who recently accepted the amnesty offered by the government.

"The M-19 group left Colombia on 13 December by way of Buenaventurea on the Pacific coast on a ship flying the Lebanese flag," said the spokesman.

"Apparently this group returned to the country at the beginning of April," he said.

The guerrillas trained in Libya were supposed to return to the M-19 group operating in the Putumayo Intendancy, where one of the Libyan planes seized in Brazil this week was scheduled to land.

Guerrilla Plan Uncovered

PA232129 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Bogota -- A vast plan to establish an independent republic in the Amazon and the southern part of the country hatched by the guerrilla groups that operate in Colombia, particularly the FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia], was uncovered during the past few days by secret agencies of the state.

The main plan was to unite the Colombian and Central American guerrillas, especially those from Nicaragua and El Salvador, and arm them with weapons from Russia and Libya.

The plan was revealed during the past few days when it was established that four Libyan planes left Tripoli for Colombia and Nicaragua and are now in Brazil, where the authorities have detained them. The crew members have been questioned.

The document confiscated by the secret agencies revealed that the FARC has 30 fronts and 5,000 men; the M-19 [19 April Movement] 7 fronts and 800 men; the National Liberation Army 4 fronts and 180 men; the Popular Liberation Army 4 fronts and 250 men; and, finally, the PLA [Pedro Leon Arboleda Group] 2 fronts and 100 men.

In addition, there were plans for the possible installation of a clandestine radio station to operate in Putumayo and the southern part of the country, and for a revolutionary army that would operate in the Colombian hills that would be comprised of one son of each family residing in the jungle and in the Caqueta and Putumayo areas.

The Army and the secret agencies are already well informed about this subversive plan and are studying it in order to prevent its implementation in the national territory.

M-19 OVERRIDES TV BROADCAST, AIRS PROCLAMATION

PA211715 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1553 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Bogota, 21 Apr (DPA) -- The April 19 (M-19) guerrilla movement has overridden the signal of the first television network, airing a proclamation that was heard in a large part of Bogota.

The clandestine transmission began with a message of solidarity from the guerrilla group to the victims of the earthquake in Popayan and continued with a criticism of the government over the death of a former guerrilla who had sought shelter under the amnesty decreed by the government. The guerrilla was murdered under strange circumstances.

Later, the extremist group's announcer criticized the government for hushing up the investigation on the Death to Kidnappers movement and said that this was because the government was afraid of the Army's reaction.

Colombia's National Radio and Television Institute said that it has not been possible to determine the place from which the transmission was made or the area it covered, but noted that the operating range was very limited.

M-19 has frequently interfered with television transmissions in Colombia but no incident of this kind has occurred in the last 1 and 1/2 years.

Havana Reports M-19 Position

PA231535 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Jaime Bateman, top leader of the Colombian 19 April Movement, M-19, has reiterated that this guerrilla organization will continue insisting on a dialogue. Meanwhile, it will also continue fighting.

During a broadcast overriding the signal of Colombia's television Channel 1, Bateman said that the movement's main objectives right now are the search for peace, a truce and a dialogue, as well as to make all possible efforts to avoid a war.

Jaime Bateman added that his guerrilla organization will continue reorganizing its forces to carry out offensives to counteract the Colombia Army's rural offensive.

Jaime Bateman said that the amnesty that Colombian President Belisario Betancur decreed in November 1982 is a fundamental step toward peace but, he added, amnesty is not peace. He emphasized that it is necessary to talk, have a truce and to adopt important measures.

Army Chief Responds to M-19

PA221559 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Bogota -- Responding to the 19 April Movement, M-19, which has announced an end to the truce, Army Commander Bernardo Lema Henao has said: Our mission is to defend a freely constituted regime and we will not budge on this, despite extremists' threats.

The senior officer stressed that the Army will act consistently with the announced aggression but renewed his call to those who are mistaken to return to the society of men of good will.

General Lema Henao said that the armed forces have not said that the amnesty has failed. On the contrary, they are confident that more compatriots who have strayed from legality will return to their work as honorable men, he noted.

The army commander said that the M-19 and other subversive groups are continuing their efforts to seize power through violent means, that the Army must react to such threats and that its reaction will always measure up to the danger of aggression.

NEW CLANDESTINE GROUP EMERGES, OPPOSES M-19

PA221553 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 20 Apr 83 p 2-A

[By Jairo Cala Otero]

[Text] Bucaramanga, 19 Apr -- A new clandestine organization has emerged in this city, declaring itself an enemy of the M-19 [19 April Movement] and the "defender of the Colombian working class."

The self-styled Solidarity Committee for Saving Colombia [Comite de Solidaridad para Salvar a Colombia] delivered three pamphlets to EL TIEMPO in which it outlined its plans to fight the M-19, which was founded 13 years ago by Carlos Toledo Plata, a doctor and former parliamentarian from Santander.

In one of the pamphlets, the new anonymous organization stated that the M-19 "is a threat to the people."

FARC GROUP LOOTS VILLAGE, MURDERS BUSINESSMEN

PA182003 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] Medellin Colombia -- Guerrillas from the self-styled Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, surrounded a small village in Antioquia Department for 5 hours.

During that time, they murdered two people, looted several stores and destroyed the judicial archives.

According to police reports, at least 20 armed men occupied the village of Providencia, in northeasten Medellin. They looted stores, stealing money and merchandise. They set police files on fire. Before leaving, they shot two businessmen to death.

The group identified itself as a member of the FARC. An army patrol began pursuing the guerrillas several hours after the bloody attack.

POLICE REPORT 28 TERRORISTS, 10 PEASANTS KILLED

PY230242 Paris AFP in Spanish 2153 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Lima, 22 Apr (AFP) -- Military and police authorities of Ayacucho reported today that as a result of new violent actions in Peru, 28 terrorists and 10 peasants have been killed in Ayacucho, in addition to the 18 peasants shot by the Maoist group Shining Path on Thursday.

The political-military command reported at dawn today that security forces killed 28 guerrillas and seized arms, ammunition and explosives during armed confrontations which occurred from 17 to 20 April.

Reliable police sources stated that extremists executed five people in Chilicruz and five other people in Carhuanca yesterday.

Interior Minister Luis Percovich, who was sworn in yesterday, announced that the fight against Shining Path will be more vigorous, adding that he will travel to Ayacucho in the next few days.

PEASANTS AMBUSH, KILL TERRORISTS IN PACCHA

PY240322 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 19 Apr 83 p 3

[By special correspondents]

[Text] Ayacucho -- Four Shining Path terrorists were killed and six severely wounded in a bloody clash with peasants of the Paccha settlement, located in Cangallo Province.

Police reported that at approximately 1800 on Saturday 16 April about 120 peasants armed with slingshots, machetes, picks and other blunt instruments ambushed a column of approximately 25 terrorists who had been terrorizing the area over the past few days. Taken by surprise the Shining Path terrorists opened up heavy fire, broke through and managed to flee.

Because of their hasty withdrawal, they could not carry away the corpses of their comrades in arms killed during the bloody clash. Six of them remained scattered about in the battlefield, nearly all of them with their skills smashed by the stones hurled with the slingshots.

The police pointed out that the terrorists "were paid in kind" since on 6 March and on 8 April 1983 they violently raided Paccha seizing staples and valuables from the unsuspecting peasants. After the dead Shining Path terrorists were fingerprinted it was decided to bury them in a common grave.

SHINING PATH BURNS TWO PEASANTS ALIVE IN AYACUCHO

PY230306 Lima LA REPUBLIC in Spanish 14 Apr 83 p 1

[By special correspondent Ernesto Salas]

[Text] Ayacucho, 13 Apr -- Two peasants were burned alive early this morning by approximately 100 Shining Path extremists who attacked the town of Satica in Cangallo Province. A woman was also shot and wounded. After looting houses and public buildings and setting them on fire, the extremists escaped under the cover of darkness. The police have launched an all-out search for the attackers.

TERRORISTS MURDER 11 PEASANTS IN CARHUANCA

PY232253 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1620 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Lima, 23 Apr (TELAM-DPA) -- Groups of Shining Path terrorists have attacked the village of Carhuanca, in the Peruvian altiplano, for the second time in 48 hours. The attack left the tragic toll of 11 Indian peasants dead. Government officials have reported that this area of Ayacucho Department is being heavily patrolled by troops in order to capture the murdering terrorists.

CROP LOSSES NOTED, MINISTER'S RESIGNATION SOUGHT

PY242228 Paris AFP in Spanish 2039 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Lima, 22 Apr (AFP) -- Agriculture Minister Mirko Cuculiza has announced at the Chamber of Deputies that the rains that are lashing the northern part of Peru and the droughts that are affecting the southern part of the country have already caused losses totalling 179 billion soles ($137.7 million) in the agricultural sector. Last night the minister made a lengthy report on the rural situation and on the projects the government is implementing. The minister explained to the legislators the reasons for the sugar shortage that has been affecting the country since the beginning of the year. The opposition, made up of the APRA [American Revolutionary Popular Alliance] and the leftist parties, announced that it will submit a motion of censure against the agriculture minister because of his inability to resolve the sugar crisis that is causing much trouble for the Peruvian people. The opposition was supported by some members of progovernment parties.

As for the serious agricultural situation, Cuculiza stated that various crops on 111,000 hectares have been totally lost as a result of the floods and droughts in the northern and southern parts of the country respectively. He added that losses are estimated at 125 billion soles ($96,100) [as received]. Cuculiza added that the floods and the droughts have also affected 266,000 additional hectares causing damage estimated at 54 billion soles ($41.6 million), adding that losses total 179 billion soles. For this reason, the minister added, the supply of foodstuffs such as potatoes, bananas, rice, wheat, barley, corn and others will decrease by 680,000 tons.

As for the sugar shortage, Cuculiza said that 90,000 tons of sugar will arrive soon from Chile, Guatemala, Cuba, the United Kingdom, the FRG and France, in addition to the 3,500 tons already imported. Cuculiza added that more sugar will be purchased abroad because the country's sugar cooperatives will not begin to produce sugar until October. He said that the heavy rains tropicalized [tropicalizado] the sugar cane. Cuculiza also stated that his assistants did not inform him of the approaching crisis in due time -- he was installed on 3 January 1983 -- and that a criminal investigation is being conducted to punish the people responsible. Opposition members headed by APRA member Humberto Carranza stated that they were not satisfied with the minister's report. Moreover, they asked the minister to resign, adding that they will submit a motion of censure against him. It was recalled that in mid-April the government reported that general damage caused by the floods and the droughts were estimated at $400 million.

FUTURE NUCLEAR PLANT, PROGRAM DISCUSSED

PY221710 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 12 Apr 83 p 6

[Text] Enrique Levrero, acting president of the National Atomic Energy Commission, stated yesterday that a nuclear plant could be operating in the country within 15 years. In this regard he pointed out that the Uruguay should start thinking about it, since it would be the solution to the energy problem. Levrero pointed out that "right now nothing prevents us from developing nuclear energy. The only problem is that the proper conditions for the installation of a nuclear plant do not exist for the time being." "Our electricity network generating capacity and consumption does not justify a nuclear plant right now."

The head of the commission pointed out that "the National Atomic Energy Commission is taking the first steps so that 15, 18 or 20 years in the future when the country's development requires it, we may have a nuclear plant. In this regard we believe that now, that is, 15-18 years beforehand, is the time to start preparing the personnel, the authorities and peoples' awareness so that it will be the solution when we have exhausted all other resources at hand." Levrero made these statements at the end of the inaugural ceremony of the meeting of Latin American experts on nuclear energy within the framework of projects for nondestructive tests. The inauguration took place yesterday morning and will last until 16 April at the headquarters of the National Atomic Energy Commission.

INTERIOR MINISTER TRINIDAD WARNS POLITICIANS

PY151830 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Text] After swearing in the new Soriano police chief, Interior Minister Yamandu Trinidad said today that the present political process may be interrupted if politicians continue to uphold present positions and issue certain statements.

This is what the interior minister told Radio El Espectador through Radio Difusora Soriano. [begin Trinidad recording] Obviously yes, because the Armed Forces have made every effort to create the proper atmosphere. However, if we do not have the proper atmosphere, if there is intransigence, if people try to return to the past -- which was the cause that brought the Armed Forces to power -- the Armed Forces have the duty of protecting the nation, of which they are an integral part, so as to achieve the established objectives.

Therefore, everything depends on moderation, the restraint (?of our actions). We will be able to take that important step by implementing stable measures and not by implementing short-term measures that may make us return to a period no one wants to experience again. [end recording]

ZAMBRANO TO DISCUSS BILATERAL ISSUES WITH USSR

PA231941 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1643 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Caracas, 23 Apr (DPA) -- Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco explained today that his trip to the Soviet Union is in no way related to the grave situation currently existing in Central America. Zambrano leaves tonight.

The minister thereby denied foreign news dispatches that his trip to the USSR was part of the peace efforts of the Contadora Group of foreign ministers in connection with the serious conflicts that exist in Central America.

"I wish to make it very clear that my visit to the Soviet Union is absolutely bilateral and takes place in the context of our political relations," emphasized Zambrano Velasco.

He recalled that Venezuelan-Soviet relations have "so far been culturally motivated and this is where we have made our principal achievements."

On the Central American crisis, he denied that the foreign ministers of the Contadora Group (Panama, Mexico, Colombia and Venezuela) propose to influence and guide the political life of the Central American countries.

"The idea is to promote meetings that can influence the states to act in a more appropriate manner to guarantee peaceful coexistence," said Zambrano Velasco.

He denied the possibility of inviting the United States and Cuba to participate in the peace negotiations. He reaffirmed the need to "take the Central American conflict out of the context of East-West tensions."

"We are promoting regional solutions inspired by the community itself. The effort being made is directed at the subregionalization of the problems in order to show the world the personality of our countries and the success that their initiatives can achieve," he emphasized.

Regarding the presumed Libyan arms shipment to Nicaragua, the Venezuelan foreign minister warned that "a series of facts exist that will have repercussions on Central America's situation."

"Naturally, the sending of arms is a significant fact, but it is not the only one," he said.

NEW TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER APPOINTED

PA240354 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2241 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Caracas, 23 Apr (EFE) -- President Luis Herrera Campins today appointed Francisco Lara Garcia as the new Transport and Communications Minister. Lara Garcia replaces Vinicio Carrera, who has been ill for several weeks with hepatitis.

The new minister was formerly vice president of the Caracas subway. Last year the Venezuelan Construction Chamber chose him as the "outstanding government official of the year."

FIRST UNOFFICIAL RESULTS FAVOR AMENDMENTS

PA250248 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 0230 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] We will now give you the grand total of "YES" votes [favoring the proposed constitutional amendments] up to this moment. We would like to add that this is incomplete information, because we are only giving partial and unofficial results.

At exactly 2130 there are a total of 138,682 "YES" votes, and 15,057 "NO" votes. There were 1,293 blank votes, and 1,396 null and void votes.

PAREDES OPTIMISTIC ON REFERENDUM OUTCOME

PA241605 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1431 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Interview with Brig Gen Ruben Dario Paredes, chief of the Panamanian National Guard, in Panama City -- live]

[Text] [Question] At this moment, Brigadier General Ruben Dario Paredes is getting off the helicopter, accompanied by his wife, Elvira de Paredes. Some members of the national press greet him as he approaches us.

Good morning, General. How are you? The National Radio Network at the service of the Electoral Tribunal would like you to address the people briefly on your arrival at the Tinajitas garrison.

[Answer] Thank you very much. I only want to mention an incident that just took place as I was boarding the helicopter in El Valle de Anton. A young peasant girl with beautiful eyes, a girl about 10 years old whose name is (Marlene), approached me and asked me where I was going. I told her I was going to vote. Then she asked me why she could not vote and I answered that because she was still under age. Then asked me to vote for her, to which I answered: My vote is going to be for you.

I bring this up because there is a message in the request of the peasant child (Marlene) The votes of all adult Panamenians today carry the force and right of those who still cannot vote, such as the children of Panama. We are very proud and convinced that today we have a better country. Through the years, we have been improving it. The people will have to say the rest with their attendance at the polls. The Panamanian people have the great opportunity today to choose their final destiny. Thank you very much.

[Question] General Paredes, as to the referendum itself, many sectors of the country are wondering about the development possibilities right after the referendum. This is something we have been able to sense in our tour of the country.

[Answer] Yes, there is a general feeling, which you will note after today, an attitude of great hope and optimism among the people. Every Panamanian will look to his future with optimism. This will have a positive effect on the nation's activities. This effect will be reflected in the nation's economy because unemployment will be reduced and other necessities of the Panamanian people will be obtained once the political scheme, the constitution, is perfected with these adjustments.

[Question] What significance do you attribute to the fact that (?all) should gather to vote in one of the most heavily populated and needy areas of this capital?

[Answer] First, I live close to San Miguelito. Second, we want to leave a message to the humble people of this community, which already has some 200,000 inhabitants, and therefore it is the largest district in the republic. The needs of this community are great, but I think these people should feel as hopeful today as the people of the interior, just like that child I met this morning.

More than anything else, we want to see the people at the polls confirming their aspiration for a new constitution.

PRESIDENT 'DISAPPOINTED' WITH CONTADORA RESULTS

PA240151 Paris AFP in Spanish 0102 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Text] Panama City, 23 Apr (AFP) -- Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella today said that he was "a bit disappointed" with the results of the meeting of the Central American foreign ministers and the Contadora Group held here 2 days ago.

"The meeting left me with the feeling that it was not effective," the Panamanian President said "However," he added, "while there is still hope in finding solutions that will defuse the Central American powder keg, we must not be discouraged."

De la Espriella stressed that "no one has closed the door to dialogue, and we still have the opportunity to ensure that the other solution to tensions will not be taken, that is, armed confrontation and direct intervention."

"There is no doubt that this intervention is being constrained thanks to the forum at which it has been discussed; but I ask myself how much longer we will be able to maintain this situation," the president added.

"I would love," De la Espriella commented, "to see agreements for peace reached, because apart from humanitarian feelings, Panama is concerned over an environment that could affect the peace in Panama."

"The path to peace is difficult, but the easy path of armed intervention would be tragic not only for Central America but for the hemisphere," the Panamanian President concluded.

COSTA RICA

PRESIDENT MONGE SAYS NO TALKS WITH NICARAGUANS

PA242127 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1330 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Text] President Luis Alberto Monge will not meet with Nicaraguan Government leaders at this time, according to a statement he made yesterday at the Palmares school, where he was feted on the occasion of the school's silver anniversary. President Monge said that for the time being he will not meet with Daniel Ortega Saavedra.

Monge said yesterday in Palmares that he will not meet with top Nicaraguan leaders as long as these men continue to blatantly violate Costa Rica's national sovereignty. This is not a time at which we can talk, Monge said.

The president said that the repeated aggressions against the nation's sovereignty by the Nicaraguans have created a situation that he cannot ignore. We are not going to meet under these circumstances. I feel that the constant violations of Costa Rican territory by the Sandinists are unlawful, harmful and therefore unacceptable, the president said.

For the time being we are not going to present any complaints to international organizations, either, because we would gain nothing, since a debate would probably be prolonged for a long time and might be fruitless. The president said firmly that as of now the alleged meeting with Ortega Saavedra in May will not take place.

NICARAGUAN PLANE REPORTEDLY VIOLATES AIRSPACE

PA220616 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Costa Rican Deputy Government Minister Enrique Chacon has reported that approximately at 1000 today a "push-pull" [in English] airplane with Nicaraguan flag entered our national territory. Chacon said the airplane's pilot intentionally provoked Costa Rican authorities because he flew all over Barra del Colorado and the airport for 30 minutes. Chacon added that the pilot made the airplane dive and then rise, even stalling its engines for a few moments, so the Rural Guard was compelled to shoot at the airplane, after receiving orders from the high command.

Deputy Government Minister Chacon added that additional reinforcement will be sent to the zone, plus a high-caliber machinegun which can be used to shoot down any plane that makes an incursion into our territory.

He added that they will request Security Ministry aid in reinforcing the zone, because they will allow no more violations of our territory.

The security minister also said that he is waiting for this request because they intend to stop the violations of our sovereignty. The Civil Guard central office reported that they had no information about the action.

The deputy foreign minister added that this is not the first time Nicaraguan planes have violated our airspace. Nevertheless, today's action was intolerable because of the way in which we were provoked.

Therefore, he has contacted the foreign minister and with Vice President Armando Arauz so that the appropriate measures are taken during the next security council meeting.

In addition, neighbors have reported that the security patrol which had been sent to safeguard the region has not been on duty since last Monday. The rural guard of Colorado confirmed the information. The security minister said they would shortly install a permanent vigilance post in Barra del Colorado. He added that this plan had been discussed prior to the area's most recent problems with the Nicaraguans. The post will have appropriately trained security personnel and the weapons necessary to defend the zone. He said that they will thus carry out their constitutional duty to defend our territorial integrity.

Communique Issued

PA231725 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] The National Security Council has described a Nicaraguan plane's overflight of Barra del Colorado as an unspeakable act of disrespect for the nation's sovereignty. A Security Council communique indicated that this is the second act of this kind to take place within a week and that it in no way contributes to normal relations between the two countries.

The communique notes that as a demonstration of good faith and a contribution to the reestablishment of peace in Central America, the Costa Rican Government has sent high-level delegations to hold talks with Nicaraguan officials; therefore, the repeated disregard for our sovereignty by Nicaraguan military forces is unjustified.

The Costa Rican Government reiterates that it will not permit activities that involve intervention in the internal affairs of other states; however, in any case, it notes clearly that, like all Costa Rican leaders throughout our history, we stand ready to defend our sovereignty and territorial integrity as well as our country's dignity.

In addition, the government communique says that the indignant protests that have been heard in all corners of the country over the repeated violation of international treaties governing Costa Rica's relations with Nicaragua are justified

The communique says that, apart from any immediate measures that may be taken, if new acts of aggression like those which took place yesterday should occur, a strong protest will be lodged with the Nicaraguan Government.

In addition, the Costa Rican Government is preparing to present, if necessary, the charges to the appropriate inter-American organizations, thereby setting in motion the mechanisms that have been established to resolve conflicts like those that have arisen in the past few days.

EL SALVADOR

VIDES CASANOVA SWORN IN, MAKES STATEMENTS

PA222254 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2223 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] San Salvador, 22 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Gen Eugenio Vides Casanova, the new defense minister of El Salvador, will keep the armed forces away from party politics at all times, according to his statement today after taking office.

The Constituent Assembly unanimously confirmed the appointment of General Vides Casanova to replace Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia, who resigned on Monday after having held the post for more than 3 years. Vides Casanova took office today at the Presidential Palace in a ceremony headed by President Alvaro Magana and also attended by Presidency Minister Francisco Jose Guerrero.

In a message after being sworn into office, General Vides Casanova said that the Army will at all times stay away from party politics, and will be "dedicated to fulfilling its pertinent duties."

The new minister said that he was assuming the Defense Ministry post at the most difficult time in Salvadoran history, but that he hoped not to let anyone down because he was accepting the challenge "with true professional pride." He affirmed that he has no commitments to anyone, except to his fatherland and the Armed Forces. "We are ready to fulfill our mission, whatever price we have to pay," he concluded.

ASSEMBLY MOTION CONDEMNS U.S. 'INTERFERENCE'

PA2300032 Paris AFP in Spanish 2339 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 22 Apr (AFP) -- Today the Salvadoran Constituent Assembly unanimously condemned foreign interference, especially by the United States, in the country's internal affairs. At the same time it confirmed Gen Eugneio Vides Casanova's appointment as new defense minister.

The condemnation of foreign interference was approved after heated debates by deputies of various parties, who more than once termed "cynical, barefaced, overt and insolent" the statements by some officials, above all by U.S. senators and congressmen who are opposed to the granting of economic and military aid to El Salvador.

The motion, approved unanimously after dispensing with regular procedures, was presented initially by deputies of the National Conciliation Party, who ruled this country for 19 years, and of the Democratic Action.

The motion established "a forceful rejection of the improper foreign interference in our country's domestic affairs, which harms national sovereignty and the power given by the people in the past elections to the members of the Assembly."

Although at the outset there was mention of a protest of foreign intervention, as the speakers progressed it was noted that the rejection was against the United States for its interventionist policy in every sense.

Legislator Hugo Carrillo said he was not surprised to hear comments that U.S. Ambassador Hinton is the one who is in command in the country. He also referred to the announcement by Senator Clarence Long about the possibility that a group of advisers will cooperate in drafting many laws to implement reforms in the country, above all in the judiciary, economic and social branches.

Carrillo noted that they have reached the extreme of proposing that a foreign official prepare the coming elections in exchange for a certain amount of economic aid. Julio Rey Prendes of the Christian Democratic Party said that Senator Long's attitude was irresponsible and impudent "because no one is going to tell us what we have to do here."

In a heated debate, Professor Carmen de Lazo insisted on the necessity of a protest being made against these gentlemen "to stop their activities," and to stop managing El Salvador as if they were managing "their personal farms."

"The United States must also realize that they have more to lose than we do," she stated, referring to the U.S. experiences in countries such as Vietnam, Nicaragua and others. The motion approved established that only the draft constitution to be presented by the commission appointed to this task will be considered legitimate, thus rejecting any foreign aid that conditions and harms national sovereignty.

D'AUBUISSON ON CANDIDACY, POLITICAL CLIMATE

PA221132 Paris AFP in Spanish 2302 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Apr (AFP) -- "The designation of Jose Napoleon Duarte as the candidate for the Salvadoran Christian Democratic Party (PDC) reflects a crisis of values within that party, " Roberto d'Aubuisson, president of the Constituent Assembly and leader of the rightwing Nationalist Republican Alliance (Arena), has declared.

The rightwing leader also reported that his party will hold its convention in the second half of May, to establish the ground rules and the requirements that its candidate must fill. As for his own candidacy, which has been mentioned persistently, D'Aubuisson said that there is nothing firm in that regard.

The political leader said that, to date, there have been no conversations with other parties in an effort to secure alliances. The Constituent Assembly president announced that Gen Eugenio Vides Casanova, the newly appointed defense minister, will be confirmed in his post by the assembly, as required by law within the new government framework.

The new minister's appointment was described by the Arena leader as a conciliatory gesture at a difficult time for the Armed Forces, which is expected to resolve the political-military crisis.

On the suicide of guerrilla leader Salvador Cayetano Carpio, "Commander Marcial," D'Aubuisson recalled the oft-repeated rightwing claim that "there is a crisis in the subversives' ranks and an internal schism in regard to the movement's authority."

"Perhaps Commander Marcial did not commit suicide, but was purged by the self-same organization," he remarked.

Meanwhile, Deputy Ricardo Gonzalez Camacho, of the Democratic Action Party, said that his organization has held talks with leaders of the National Conciliation Party, (PCN), which held power in the country for 19 years. However, Gonzalez Camacho said that this could not be interpreted as an indication of alliance, but rather as an exchange of common views to aid in adopting common positions in facing the approaching situation.

The PCN is one of the least politically active of the Salvadoran parties. It is said that this has been due to internal divisions and personal aspirations, such as those of Francisco Jose Guerrero, current minister of the presidency and one of the party's founders who, along with the late President Julio Adalberto Rivera, tried to exercise authority.

CHAMBER URGES CITIZENS TO SHOW SUPPORT FOR REAGAN

PA241942 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 22 Apr 83 p 1

[Text] In a special meeting today, the Salvadoran Chamber of Commerce and Industry urged all Salvadorans to send messages of support and total backing to President Ronald Reagan for his appearance on Wednesday before the U.S. Congress to request economic and military aid for El Salvador.

Conrado Lopez Andreu, president of the Chamber, accompanied by the other leaders of the institution, explained that there is a patriotic obligation to send a conscientious message to all U.S. sectors regarding El Salvador's need for that aid, because this is not just a Salvadoran struggle, but a struggle to defend continental democracy.

"Salvadorans," Lopez Andreu said, "must use all possible means, such as telephone, cables, telex, etc, to contact their relatives in the United States in order to flood the White House with messages supporting President Reagan's position on El Salvador."

COPREFA ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON FMLN 'PURGE'

PA241840 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish Apr 83 pp 41, 42

[Communique issued by the Armed Forces Press Committee in San Salvador; no date given]

[Text] The Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee (Coprefa), announces the following with regard to the purge of terrorist leaders of the FMLN in Managua:

"One's attention is drawn powerfully to the media manipulation that has been carried out by the internationalist leaders of Nicaragua's FSLN regarding the tragic death of Melida Anaya Montes, a former professor of the University of El Salvador and the founder of the 21 June National Association of Salvadoran Teachers (ANDES 21 June).

"The Nicaraguan authorities, using the media control measures that are typical of totalitarian dictatorships, have manipulated the reports of Anaya Montes' death for their own benefit.

"Interior Minister Tomas Borge personally informed local and international journalists that blame for the murder was being initially placed on an 'Israeli Commando Group,' possibly in an attempt to obtain or augment support from the Arab countries in the form of weapons and materiel for their war of exploitation of the Nicaraguan people. The minister's cleverness had the desired results and led to the incident of the four Libyan airplanes which deceived the Brazilian air service.

"Simultaneously, the minister made emphatic statements, without reliable evidence. He accused the Central Intelligence Agency of murdering Anaya Montes, asserting that the murderers had worn dark clothing and special sneakers.

"Mr Borge emphasized the horrible aspects, the 84 stab wounds to the body and the shot in the heart and said this reflected the cruelty with which the CIA carries out its crimes. In El Salvador, those who are knowledgeable about such crimes said that the incident appeared to be an attempt to disguise a political crime, using extreme cruelty to give the impression of a crime of passion or the act of a schizophrenic.

In other words, that many stab wounds and the beheading of the victim were not necessary to kill a political leader, but the criminal went to extremes of cruelty to give the impression that the murder was not a political purge, but a crime committed for other reasons.

"Mr Borge spoke of the cruelty as a basis for accusations against the CIA. The Salvadoran people know that this cruelty is typical of the terrorist bands that attack the nation's sovereignty.

"In 1975, the People's Revolutionary Army, ERP, led by Joaquin Villalobos, killed Roque Dalton Garcia, a law student, after charging that Dalton was trying to place the former leaders of the Communist Party above his armed terrorist band. On that occasion, Villalobos, using the psychological warfare misinformation technique, made charges against the CIA. The People's Liberation Forces [FPL] and the Armed Forces of National Resistance, RN-FARN, [acronym as published] revealed the truth because of fear of 'execution' by Villalobos.

"In 1979, Villalobos ordered the execution of Jorge Moran Cornejo, leader of the Salvadoran Single Trade Union Federation, FUSS, the labor front for the Communist Party, in order to force the party leaders to give up their 'pacifist line' of infiltrating or creating political parties or seeking a coup d'etat in order to take power. On that occasion, the ERP accused the Salvadoran National Guard of the murder. The FARN revealed the truth when its members opposed the admittance of the ERP into the TRI [expansion not given], an organization made up of the Salvadoran Communist Party, the FPL and the FARN which, on Fidel Castro's instruction, was converted into the Unified Revolutionary Directorate, DRU, after pressure was exerted to have the ERP included.

"In Managua, Minister Borge accused the CIA of the brutal murder of Anaya Montes. Then 14 days later Minister Borge announced that it was committed by a member of the FPL Central Command, whose nom de guerre is Marcelo, simply because of 'ideological differences.'

"The ERP and the FSLN in Nicaragua follow the same methods imposed by Soviet Premier Yuriy Andropov, founder and permanent director of Department 5 (Eliminations) of the USSR's KGB, which is accused of the attempt to commit the heinous crime against His Holiness John Paul II, using the assassins of the Bulgarian Intelligence Service."

The Salvadoran People Suffer Consequences

"The FMLN General Command has issued an urgent order to increase terrorism in the rural areas of El Salvador. This is an apparent attempt to distract the minds of the FPL terrorists, to keep them from questioning the deaths of their two top leaders. The FMLN General Command has ordered the destruction of more factories throughout the country and the continued violation of the Salvadorans' right to work. The terrorists are machinegunning more buses and setting them on fire in flagrant violation of the Salvadoran people's right to transportation. They destroy city halls in an attempt to destroy the civil registries in each location, in order to keep our country from continuing to enjoy the right to vote.

"The FMLN General Command has ordered the continuous violation of the Salvadoran people's human rights, as if the Salvadoran people were to blame for the double homicide at terrorism's base in Central America.

"The FSLN's effort to cover up the murders in Nicaragua increases the Salvadoran people's unemployment and the vandalism and terrorism in the countryside obstruct the work of the peasants, whose houses and crops have been burned."

"Coprefa calls on labor and guild leaders, elementary and high school teachers and professors, university students, public employees and the professors of the University of El Salvador, who are being used to give a democratic and popular tinge to the murders and violations of the Salvadoran people's human rights, not to be deceived by the manipulation of the mass media that is being carried out within the internationalist strategy of psychological warfare.

"Coprefa appeals to the apparently peaceable leaders of the 'overt fronts' of the terrorist subversives in the interior of our country to become aware of the intentions of the FMLN General Command members who, even before taking power, are eliminating the 'competition' just as Castro did with Camilo Cienfuegos, because of mistrust and selfishness within the leadership.

'Coprefa is aware of the great conflicts that exist among the Marxist terrorist groups in El Salvador and thus warns the Salvadoran people to be on the alert to the possibility that the purges within the FMLN-FDR will continue, because there is great rivalry among the bands of the FPL and the RN-FARN to achieve hegemony and to utilize the University of El Salvador, and between those bands and the Communist Party over the manipulation of labor unions in an attempt to politicize them or generate violence by the masses on 1 May in order to again introduce vandalism, the burning of buses, looting businesses and other human rights violations in El Salvador."

GUATEMALA

REBEL COMMANDER KILLED, CAMP DISMANTLED

PA220609 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 20 Apr 83

[Text] Guatemalan Army 2d Lt (Eric Rolando Vasquez Miranda), 10 soldiers and a member of the Civilian Patrol, were killed in an ambush in La Palma Cooperative, in La Libertad, Peten Department, the Army Information Office reported.

In another report, the Army Information Office says that Commander Adriana and another three terrorists were killed yesterday during an armed clash in (?Chabilchoc), Chichacastenango Municipality, El Guiche Department. According to the Army bulletin, Commander Adriana was an attractive white woman, with no physical resemblance to the region's inhabitants. She was wearing an olive-green uniform and carrying an M-16 rifle, two hand grenades and a knapsack. The other three subversive bandits each had Soviet-made submachineguns, as well as grenades, groceries and other supplies.

In Chiantla, Huehuetenango Department, military units found a subversive camp which had 15 huts and 18 barns protected with booby traps. They also found 60 sheep, which were the rebels source of meat, the Army Information Office reported. No armed clashes or casualties were reported.

HONDURAS

REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT CRITICIZES REGIME

PA230258 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] The National Unity Directorate of the Revolutionary Movement of Honduras [Movimento Revolucionario de Honduras] has accused the United States of turning Honduras into the rearguard of the counterrevolution in the area. In a communique issued in San Jose, Costa Rica, the organization declared war on the so-called liberal Honduran military dictatorship, which has shut down all the roads to democracy. The communique accused the Honduran Armed Forces of coordinating and participating in actions with the genocidal Salvadoran Army and the Somozist task forces against Nicaragua.

Movement Declares War on Regime

PA232154 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] The National Unity Directorate of the Revolutionary Movement of Honduras [Movimiento Revolucionario de Honduras] has called on the Honduran people to join the popular rebellion to eliminate the arrogance of U.S. imperialism and overthrow the reactionary military clique in this country. The group is made up of the leftist political parties and revolutionary organizations.

The flagrant political-military occupation of Honduran territory by the Reagan administration, turning the government and armed forces into obedient instruments for their aggressive maneuvers against the neighboring peoples, makes it imperative for the Honduran people to decide their own destiny, disowning the puppet regime that has turned the land of Morazan over to the aggressive and warmongering appetites of Ronald Reagan, the document noted. The Revolutionary Movement of Honduras announced that the affiliated organizations have declared a people's revolutionary war on the pseudoliberal military distatorship, its army and U.S. imperialism, after having exhausted all democratic means of struggle.

ISRAELI OFFICIAL MEETS ACTING FOREIGN SECRETARY

PA230454 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 22 Apr 83 p 10

[By Marco Tulio Romero]

[Excerpts] Tegucigalpa -- The Israeli Government yesterday reaffirmed its support for the peace initiatives promoted by Honduras, El Salvador and Costa Rica to solve the Central American problems. This was said by Herzl Inbar, Israel's main representative in Latin America.

Inbar, who is division director for Latin America at the Israeli Foreign Ministry, arrived in Tegucigalpa and met with Acting Foreign Secretary Arnulfo Pineda Lopez, with whom he discussed subjects of general interest.

The Israeli Government official must cover a broad agenda on his visit to Central American countries. His meeting with the under secretary for foreign affairs was based on the need to strengthen bilateral relations between the two countries.

In replying to questions about Israel's role in the world, Inbar said that his country has no plans of selling weapons to countries of the area, including Honduras. "Our relations are based on cooperation in agriculture, technology and other fields," Inbar said.

COLONEL REJECTS GUATEMALAN 'CONSPIRACY' CHARGES

PA231530 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 22 Apr 83 p 3

[Excerpt] Santa Rosa de Copan -- Lt Col Ruben Rolando Torres, commander of the 12th Infantry Battalion, has denied that a plot to carry out an alleged criminal attack and coup against Guatemalan President Gen Efrain Rios Montt had been planned in Nueva Ocotepeque, Honduras.

The top military officer said that he was extremely surprised by a report to this effect from Guatemala, since "the Honduran Government has repeatedly declared that it will not allow its territory to be used for conspiracies against other area nations and governments."

Colonel Torres also said that with the approval of the Military High Command, he will carry out the necessary investigation to verify the charges and determine the accuracy of the Guatemalan Government's assertions. The officer said that relatives of a Honduran who was executed by the Guatemalan Government last month along with a Guatemalan citizen live in the Ocotepeque area, but that the family does not have the economic or other necessary resources with which to implement a plot against General Rios Montt.

NICARAGUA

RADIO ON 'SUSPICIOUS' DEATHS OF FMLN LEADERS

PA221911 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Several Salvadoran guerrilla leaders have died suspiciously. What selfish interests led to these deaths? Guerrilla Ana Maria died on 6 April in Managua, disrupting the very guarded and safe military security atmosphere controlled by the FSLN. The security officials blamed the CIA, deceiving the Nicaraguan people, inciting them against the foreign invaders and threatening the Nicaraguan opposition leaders, even though they knew that others had murdered the guerrilla.

Commander Marcial, Cayetano Carpio, also died in Managua, supposedly after learning that several of his subordinates in the Salvadoran guerrila movement had murdered Ana Maria. FMLN leader Marcial died on 12 April, though his death was not announced until 20 April.

Mario Flores (Mazan) died on 16 April in a strange accident in Heredia, Costa Rica. The death of this outstanding Salvadoran guerrilla leader elicited all kinds of speculation.

Late last year, Commander Eden Pastora warned that the dark forces of international communism were manipulating the Salvadoran guerrillas politically and that the most conscientious elements among them might be eliminated in the course of these manipulative transactions.

The suspicious circumstances under which these three outstanding Salvadoran guerrilla leaders, who apparently favored a negotiated political solution, have died remind us of Commander Pastora's words and cause us to suspect that these deaths were premeditated and executed by the dark forces of international communism. The idea is to set fire to Central America, in order to force the Americans to intervene directly, thus justifying the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and Poland.

This is the only thing that the communists care about. This is the only thing that concerns the Nine. They care neither about our people's blood nor about negotiated solutions nor about the valuable life of Commander Hilario Sanchez, who was killed because he was a Christian, and one of the interventionist Cubans did not like this. The same thing happened to Commander Camilo Cienfuegos at the outset of the Cuban revolution. He died in a suspicious airplane accident. Cienfuegos was loved by his people and Fidel felt jealous, concerned that he might seize power from him. This is why he was eliminated.

We've had enough lies and deaths. Let us seize again the rifles of freedom. Let us save Nicaragua; let us save Central America. Free fatherland, or death!

PROTEST NOTE SENT TO HONDURAS ON NAVAL INCIDENT

PA240045 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Protest note sent to Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica by Nicaraguan Acting Foreign Minister Nora Astorga; no date given]

[Text] Your excellency, Dr Edgardo Paz Barnica, foreign secretary, Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

Mr Secretary: I am addressing Your Excellency to notify you that today at 0630 three Honduran coast guard vessels, in a new violation of our national sovereignty, entered Nicaraguan territorial waters in the Gulf of Fonseca and attacked two Sandinist Navy patrol boats that were on routine patrol in the sector of Farallones. In reply to that unjustifiable aggression, the Nicaraguan patrol boats repelled the attack.

At 0910 the Honduran coast guard vessels returned, this time reinforced by a Honduran Air Force Super Mystere airplance, which carried out a number of maneuvers of provocation. Later, at 1500, other Honduran boats staged new maneuvers. No reply was made to those maneuvers so that the incidents would not go further.

Mr Secretary: The Nicaraguan Government cannot ignore the series of attacks and provocations against Nicaraguan boats by Honduran Navy coast guard vessels and Air Force planes, which must inevitably be added to the attacks on our territory by the Honduran Army and Somozist mercenaries operating from Honduras. These actions seem to be part of a premeditated plan of provocations against Nicaragua, aimed at causing incidents that will serve as a pretext for a larger-scale confrontation. Once again presenting the energetic and formal protest of my government over this latest attack on Nicaragua, I reiterate to you our call for moderation and wisdom that will prevent an unfortunate confrontation between our countries.

I take advantage of this opportunity to express my regards and esteem.

[Signed] Nora Astorga, acting foreign minister

Foreign Ministry Communique

PA240031 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Communique issued by the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry in Managua on 23 April -- read by announcer]

[Text] The Foreign Ministry reports that on 19 April 1983 at 1050 a Sandinist Navy coast guard vessel that was patrolling the areas near Cape Gracias a Dios detected the presence of a Honduran Navy coast guard vessel 10 miles south of that cape. At 1125 that same day, three more Honduran Navy coast guard vessels along with two Honduran fishing boats were detected sailing in Nicaraguan territorial waters. At 1130, the first-sighted coast guard vessel attacked the Nicaraguan coast guard vessel, which did not suffer any casualties or damage. After the attack was repelled, all the Honduran vessels withdrew to the north.

The Foreign Ministry once again denounces to international and national public opinion the Honduran Armed Forces' policy of aggression and violation of our territorial sovereignty, which in the past few days has been extended to the Nicaraguan territorial waters in the Caribbean and the Gulf of Fonseca, where Nicaraguan vessels and patrol boats have been the victims of unjustified and treacherous attacks in the same way that Nicaragua border posts and towns are attacked on land.

Managua, 23 April 1983

POSTPONEMENT OF BORGE CANADA VISIT ANNOUNCED

PA230209 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0115 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Managua, 22 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Nicaraguan Interior Minister Commander Tomas Borge will not be able to travel to Canada "for now," the FSLN announced tonight.

A press bulletin of the FSLN reported that the minister will not make the trip "due to circumstances imposed on him by his responsibility as leader and interior minister." Borge is a member of the FSLN Directorate. It had been announced that Borge planned to visit Canada beginning on 25 April, to meet with religious, political, government and university leaders in that country.

100 PRISONERS PARDONED, 31 OTHERS SENTENCED

PA222027 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0048 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Managua, 21 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan Government has decreed a pardon for 100 prisoners who were serving sentences of various lengths for violating the country's regulations on public order and state security. Meanwhile, a judge in Managua today condemned 31 persons to sentences of various lengths for violating the law on order and the maintenance of public security.

According to a decree published in the official newspaper LA GACETA, the 100 pardoned prisoners must be released "immediately." The government's National Commission to Promote and Protect Human Rights negotiated the pardons. Meanwhile, the 31 persons sentenced by the common courts will have to serve sentences 15, 6 and 3 years. [as received]

CASTRO HAILS ECUADOREAN PRESIDENT'S INITIATIVE

PA240441 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers of Cuba, has expressed his support for Ecuadorean President Oswaldo Hurtado's initiative requesting from ECLA and from SELA the drafting of a common strategy to face the economic crisis. This was stated by the Cuban leader in a letter to the Ecuadorean president.

I believe, the letter stated, that your initiative is timely, and I therefore give it my humble support. I fully share your concern for the situation of the world economy. Fidel added that this crisis especially affects the underdeveloped countries.

The Ecuadorean President's suggestion to ECLA and SELA has received the support of several Latin American chiefs of state, such as those of Panama, Brazil and Peru.

MPSP CRITICIZES U.S. POLICY IN CENTRAL AMERICA

PA232311 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] The Cuban Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples [MPSP] has charged that only the U.S. Government is to blame for the extreme seriousness of the Central American situation. In a motion read during the Conference for Peace and Sovereignty being held in Managua, the MPSP described Washington's policy of imposing a solution by force on the subregional crisis as senseless and irresponsible, adding that every day a direct intervention by U.S. troops becomes more likely.

The document added that Ronald Reagan's government is trying to cover up its hegemonic intentions in Central America and the Caribbean with a series of lies and slanders intended to confuse world opinion.

The MPSP document rejected the statement that Cuba, Nicaragua, Grenada and the Salvadoran revolutionary movement are dangers to U.S. security.

SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL PACT SIGNED WITH MEXICO

FL231637 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1522 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] With the signing in Mexico City of a scientific and technical agreement for 1983 and 1984, Mexico and Cuba have considerably broadened bilateral cooperation. The cooperation program includes the development of projects in the livestock-agricultural, health, industrial, transportation, construction, fishing and communications branches and research work, among others.

The signing of the documents took place at the conclusion of the sixth meeting of the Mexican-Cuban Joint Commission. Our delegation was headed by Hector Rodriguez Llompart, minister president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, and Mexico's by Hector Mayagoitia, director general of Mexico's National Council of Sciences and Technology.

In speeches made at the signing ceremony, the two chiefs of delegations noted the friendly ties uniting Cuba and Mexico and stated that the new cooperation program will further strengthen those ties.

RODRIGUEZ RECEIVES MEXICAN EDUCATION MINISTER

FL221920 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and of Ministers, has received Mexican Public Education Minister Jesus Reyes Heroles. During the meeting, aspects of the wide scope of bilateral relations were analyzed and the contributions made by Minister Reyes Heroles to the development of good relations between the two countries -- for which he has largely been responsible in Mexico -- were stressed.

The meeting was attended by Cuban Education Minister Jose R. Fernandez and the Mexican and Cuban ambassadors, Rodolfo Echeverria and Fernando Lopez Muino, respectively.

JAPANESE MERCHANTS STEP UP TRADE RELATIONS

FL231801 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] The increase of Cuban exports to Japan is an important aspect of the visit to Havana of a commercial mission formed by executives of commercial firms of the port city of Kobe of that Asian country.

During its stay in our country, contracts for the export of national products to that market and for the importation of goods from firms represented by the Japanese mission -- 15 of them -- were signed.

During the visit, the Cuba-Kobe Section of the Cuban Chamber of Commerce was officially established as a counterpart of the Kobe-Cuba Conference of Friendship and Economy, created by the merchants of that important port in 1976.

Subsequently, (Soy Chisato) and Mose M Diaz Mirabal, presidents of the third mission and of the Cuban Chamber of Commerce, respectively, signed a document on the various activities of the Japanese mission in our country, and its interest in developing trade relations to a higher level.

FOREIGN MINISTRY SUPPORTS PHNOM PENH PROPOSALS

PA230316 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] The Cuban Foreign Ministry issued a statement today expressing support for peace proposals for Indochina made by the governments of Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos during a meeting of foreign ministers held in Phnom Penh on 12 April.

The Cuban Foreign Ministry note recalled that in the Phnom Penh declaration the Indochinese ministers reiterated their willingness to talk with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and rejected the U.S. and Thai lies about an alleged Vietnamese attack against Kampuchean civilians and the violation of Thai territory by Vietnamese troops.

The Cuban Foreign Ministry urged the world's progressive forces to give their firmest support to the positions adopted at the Phnom Penh meeting.

15TH CTC CONGRESS TO BE HELD IN FEBRUARY 84

FL231251 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Dec 83

[Text] From 20 to 24 February 1984, the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions [CTC] will hold its 15th congress in this capital, it was announced in a press conference of the CTC leadership. It was also learned that the national preparatory committee of the labor forum had been created.

The committee is headed by Roberto Veiga, alternate member of the Politburo and CTC secretary general, and is formed by 24 other members.

At the press conference, the CTC leadership reported that next September an assembly process will be developed in all union sections of the country to discuss the projects of theses to be taken up by the congress and to select the nominees for delegates.

In October, the national unions will conclude the process of electing delegates to the congress and in November and December, there will be municipal and provincial conferences.

MONTANE MEETS WITH SPAIN'S ALFONSO GUERRA

FL230150 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Spanish Deputy Prime Minister Alfonso Guerra, who is also undersecretary general of the Spanish Workers' Party, received Jesus Montane Oropesa, alternate member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and member of its Secretariat, in Madrid today.

In the meeting, held at the main offices of the Spanish Workers' Party, the two leaders examined the development of relations between the two parties. The two sides agreed to strengthen bilateral ties and exchanged views on certain important issues of the current international situation. Rafael Polanco, deputy chief of the General Department of Foreign Relations of the Central Committee of our party, (German Sanchez), section chief of that same department; and Oscar Garcia Fernandez, Cuban ambassador to Spain; also participated in the meeting.

Meeting With Friendship Association

FL222300 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2117 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Jesus Montane Oropesa, alternate member of the Politburo and member of our party Secretariat, has been received in Madrid by the directorate of the Bartolome de las Casas Spanish-Cuban Friendship Association. During the meeting in the Spanish capital, they exchanged views on the role of the association in fortifying the bonds of friendship between the Spanish and Cuban people.

The association's board of directors explained to Montane their plans to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the assault on Moncada Barracks and the 25th anniversary of the triumph of our revolution. Oscar Garcia Fernandez, Cuban ambassador to Spain, and officials of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee accompanying Montane in his visit to the Spanish peninsula, also participated in the meeting.

KATUSHEV ADDRESSES CEREMONY HONORING LENIN

FL230135 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Division General Sixto Batista Santanana, alternate member of the party Politburo and chief of the FAR Central Political Directorate, and Konstantin Katushev, member of the Central Committee of the Soviet Union and ambassador to Cuba from the fraternal country, this afternoon presided over the main national ceremony commemorating the 113th anniversary of the birth of the inspiring leader of the world proletariat, Vladimir Ilich Lenin, held at the auditorium of Las Villas Central University.

Addressing the ceremony, Comrade Katushev hailed Vladimir Ilich Lenin's role in establishing the first workers' state in the world and stressed the accurate interpretation which Lenin made of the observations of Marx and Engles. Among other matters, the Soviet ambassador emphasized that at present his country is working for world peace in the face of the aggressive policies of the world's reactionaries, led by the bellicose Yankee administration.

The ceremony's closing remarks were delivered by Comrade Jose Felipe Carneada, member of the Central Committee and chief of its Education, Culture and Science Department. Also present at the presidency of the ceremony were Raul Rodriguez Lopez, alternate member of the Central Committee and first secretary of the party in Villa Clara, and other representatives from the USSR.

SOTO PRIETO RECEIVED BY CZECHOSLOVAK PRESIDENT

FL221425 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1315 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Prague -- Czechoslovak President Gustav Husak today received Lionel Soto Prieto, member of the Central Committee Secretariat of the Communist Party of Cuba, who is paying a work visit to that country. The talks between them were termed as satisfactory.

GRENADA

BISHOP HAILS MILITARY MANEUVERS, PEOPLE'S SPIRIT

PA250104 St Georges Domestic Service in English 2308 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Speech delivered by Grenadian Prime Minister Maurice Bishop at the closing event of the Jeremiah Richardson Defense of the Homeland Maneuvers, in St Georges -- live]

[Text] Thank you very much, comrades. Comrades, this morning I already gave a quick summary of the results of the maneuver, and at that time I was making the point that not only has this been the biggest maneuver in terms of quantity, but has also been the best maneuver in terms of quality. I was emphasizing this morning, comrades, the great professionalism of the maneuver, the deep discipline shown by all comrades, the tremendous amount of activity that the maneuver had, the variety and creativity of the comrades themselves. All I want to do at this time is to add two more brief points.

The first point is this. I really want, comrades, to recognize and to salute the comrades of the leadership of our Armed Forces, the comrades of our General Staff, and in particular comrade Lt Gen (Euart Layne), for the tremendous organization and work that was put into the preparation of this maneuver over the very short time of just 4 weeks and has produced what we have just seen. [applause] It really shows, comrades, the quality of the leadership of our Revolutionary Armed Forces. It shows how much can be done, even in a very short time, when you have the will, the determination, the organization and the necessary clarity to bring it about. This was a tremendous job and a tremendous achievement.

I want to say secondly, comrades, that as we were driving down today in the motorcade from Simon, and as we spent these past few hours, we were really very, very struck by the tremendous number of our people who came out on the streets to welcome our revolutionary soldiers, our revolutionary militia and all sections of our Revolutionary Armed Forces. The turnout by the people today was particularly impressive. We are into a very hot dry period at [word indistinct]. In fact it has been dry for [so] long now you would see that a mango tree are not yet producing the flowers. As we are driving around now we see that our earth, our soil, is particularly parched and dry, and yet many of our people [are] waiting out there for several hours, so as to be able to greet our revolutionary Armed Forces, and I think we must salute our own people for this tremendous enthusiasm which they have shown. [applause]

And, comrades, let me tell you something that you also will not know. In every previous maneuver that we have held we have had to put aside a small budget in order to find enough money to get the food required to feed the troops over the weekend. This maneuver, this Jeremiah Richardson Defense of the Homeland Maneuver, is the very first maneuver that we have ever held where the government budget did not have to spend one single cent on food. All of the food was donated by our people around the country. [applause] Let us salute our people once again. [applause]

As we wrap up this maneuver this evening, I can think of many heroes who emerged from the maneuver. I can certainly think at this time comrades, of the anti-aircraft units for example, because I remember vividly yesterday afternoon when we had gone to a particular point where our comrades were holding a particular exercise.

That exercise was pretending that enemy troops was landing on a piece in St David's, and at that time our mortar units had to open fire, other sections of our armament had to open fire. But what stands out vividly in mind mind was the actual feat of the anti-aircraft section [words indistinct due to shouts from crowd] [Break in transmission]

Havana Reportage

PA232228 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Grenada have begun the Jeremiah Richardson maneuvers for the defense of the homeland for the purpose of increasing the defense capacity of the country's military forces in the face of the possibility of an armed attack. The current exercises were announced on 23 March by Maurice Bishop, commander in chief of the Grenada Armed Forces, who on that occasion said that the Caribbean island would show the United States that it has a united and vigilant people who will never yield to Washington's objectives.

Beginning of Maneuvers

FL231608 Bridgetown CANA in English 1457 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] St. Georges, Grenada, April 23, CANA -- Military vehicles, including army trucks, rumbled through the virtually deserted streets of St. Georges last night accompaning hundreds of army and militia personnel as the Grenada Armed Forces began a three-day manoeuvre designed to show what government says is the island's ability to defend itself against armed aggression. No details of the nature of the military exercises by the various sections of the armed forces were announced, but during the night a number of explosions were heard in the city.

The government-controlled Radio Free Grenada said last evening that the manoeuvre was strictly defensive, but aimed at defending "this piece of rock, forest and sand called Free Grenada.

It quoted General of the Armed Forces and Minister of Public Utilities and Construction Hudson Austin as saying that the manoeuvre was also intended to keep members of the Armed Forces in a state of combat readiness.

General Austin said that this was necessary especially at a time when U.S. "imperialism" was bent on overthrowing the left-wing government which came to power here in a March 1979 coup.

Concluding Motorcade Set

PA240131 St Georges Domestic Service in English 2300 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] The Jeremiah Richardson Defense of the Homeland Maneuver enters its final night tonight with all members of the People's Revolutionary Armed Forces still in high spirits despite sleepless hours between the start of the military exercise last night [sentence as heard]

The last of the military exercises will take place tonight, and tomorrow units from all regions will assemble at the (Stevens) Pavillion in Grenville before the start of a military motorcade around the country. The motorcade will end in St Georges where the People's Revolutionary Armed Forces will hear addresses from the leadership of the country. This maneuver, described as one of the biggest, is aimed at increasing the military defensive preparedness of all Grenadians given the recent threats on the nation from the United States.

GOVERNMENT, BRAZIL REACH RICE SALE AGREEMENT

FL222250 Bridgetown CANA in English 2058 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, April 22, CANA -- Brazil has agreed to buy 50,000 tons of Suriname rice, an amount that will be increased by 10 per cent annually, the official Suriname News Agency (SNA) reported today.

The agreement followed discussions here between Minister General Danilo Venturini, a special envoy of Brazilian President Joao Figueiredo, and Suriname Government officials.

SNA said a Surinamese mission will travel to Brazil "in the near future" to investigate and further develop cooperation between the two countries.

The discussions also covered cooperation and exchange in economic, political, scientific, technological and military areas.

The Brazilian delegation also pledged that the country would not be a vehicle for endangering Suriname's national [sovereignty] and so would not allow mercenary activities or counterrevolutionary actions aimed at the overthrow of the Suriname Government on its territory.

SNA said the Brazilian Government denied reports about tensions between the two South American countries because of a reported Cuban military presence in Suriname near the Brazilian border.

During the visit, it was emphasised that neither country would tolerate foreign dominance or import ideological models, the news agency said.

SNA said Suriname's military leader Lieutenant-Colonel Daysi Bouterse stressed that this country pursued a non-aligned policy and did not wish to be placed in the cross-fire of East-West contradictions.

"Suriname is for the Surinamers, Brazil is for the Brazilians and South America for the South Americans," Bouterse said.